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Incoming letters

The Comeau Memorial — Cummings, Clara Eaton
Committee

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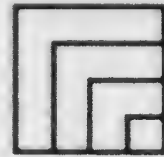
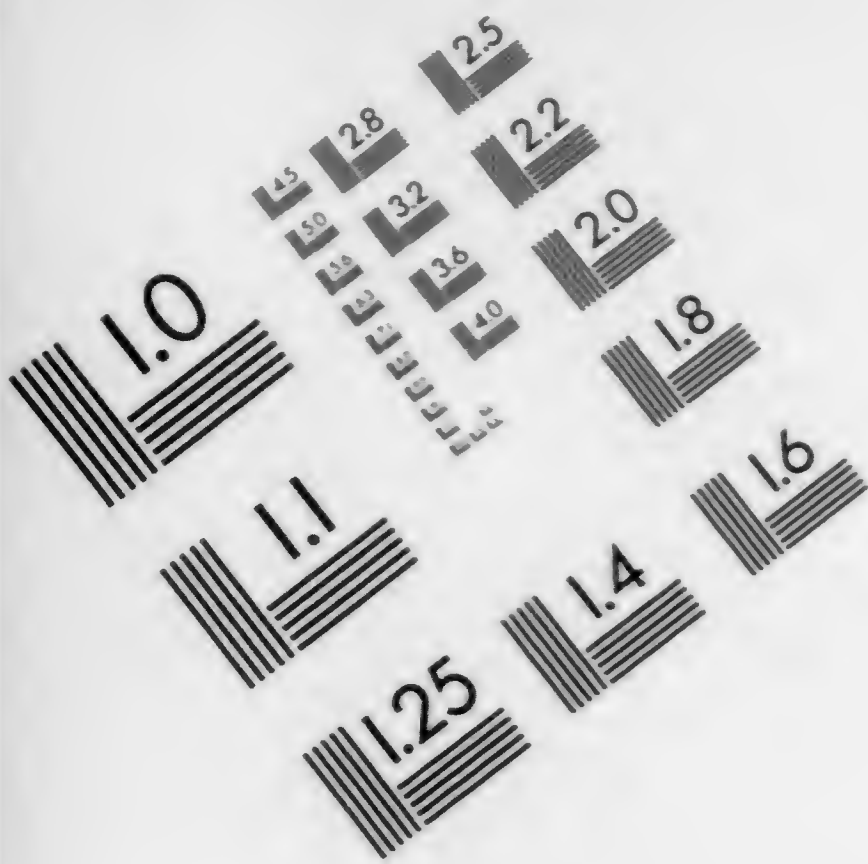
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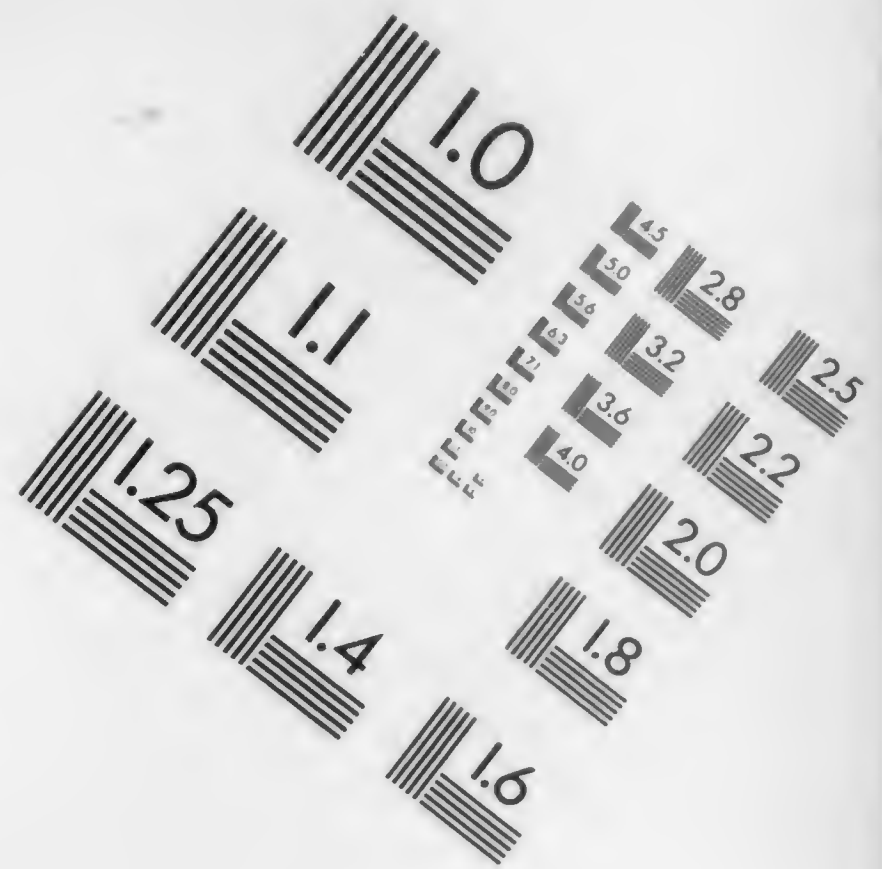
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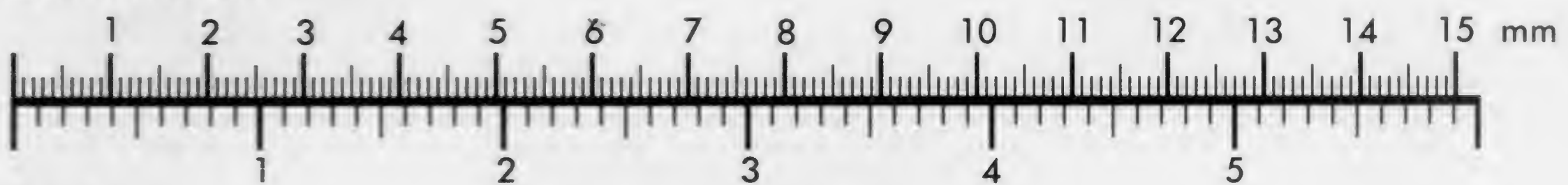
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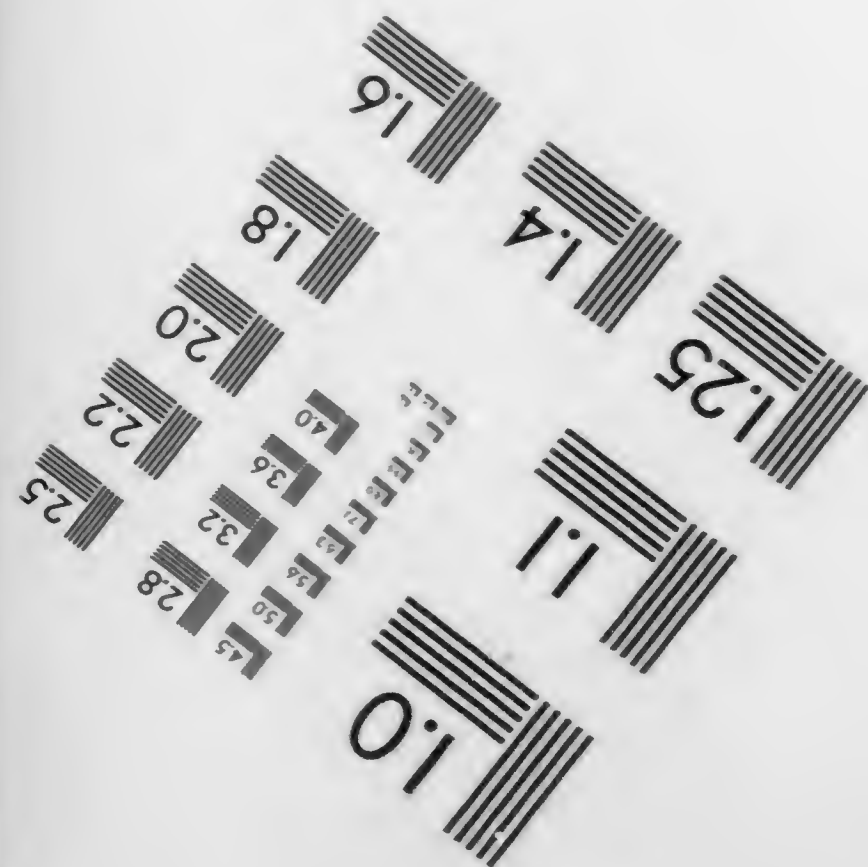
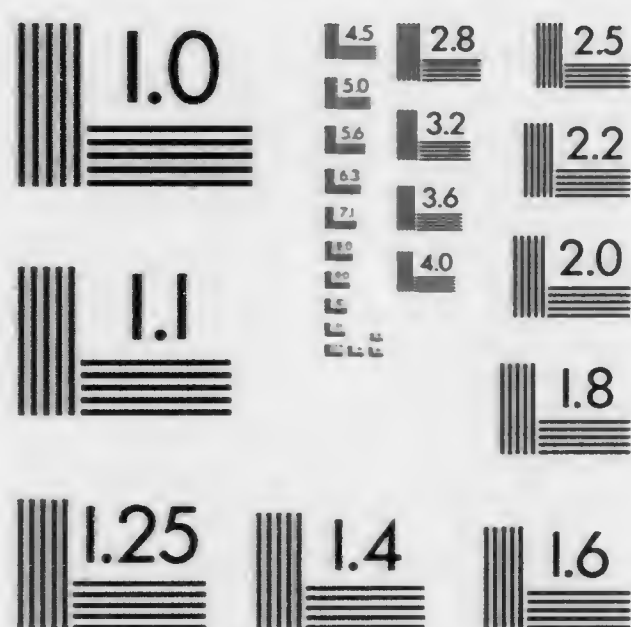
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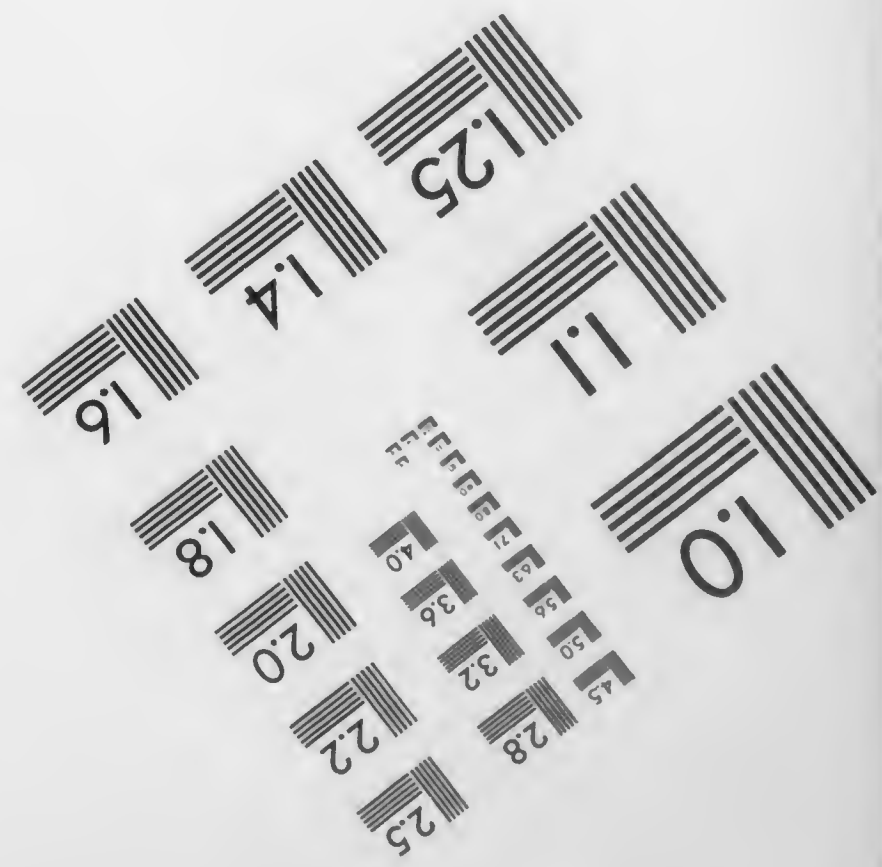


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The London Memorial Committee

1925

83/129
✓

The Comeau Memorial Committee

HEAD QUARTERS: PARLIAMENT BLDG., QUEBEC, P. Q.

President:

HON. ADELAED TURGEON, C.V.O., C.M.G., *President of the Legislative Council of the Province of Quebec, President of the Historical Monuments Commission, Quebec, P. Q.*

Vice-President:

HON. FRANK CARREL, *Member of the Legislative Council of the Province of Quebec.*

DR. S. GAUDREAU, DR. A. DERY, DR. J. E. BERNIER,
Directors of the Provancher Society of Natural History of Canada

COLONEL OSCAR PELLETIER
MR. EDWIN POPE

COLONEL WILLIAM WOOD, M.R.S.C.
MR. E. N. CHINIC

Hon'y Secretary:

CAPT. JOS. MATTE, *Vice-President of the Provancher Society of Natural History of Canada,*
8 Maisonneuve Ave., Quebec, P. Q.

Hon'y Treasurer:

MR. GEO. M. MITCHELL,
79 Maple Avenue, Quebec, P. Q.

Quebec, July 2nd. 1925.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919, 16th St., Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

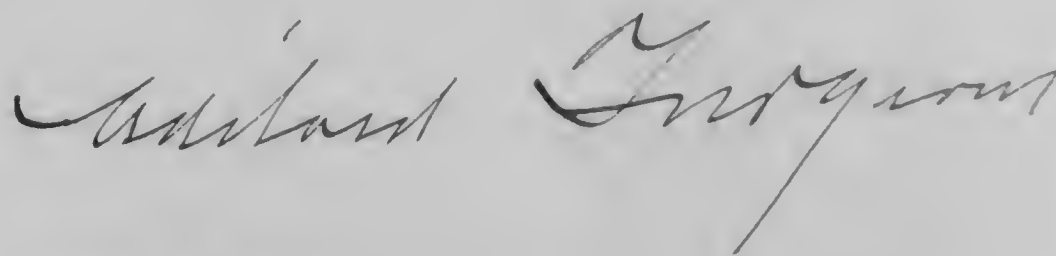
By the death of Napoléon Alexandre Comeau, in November 1923, the world of Naturalists and of Wild Life Lovers has lost one of its most eminent collaborators. Although he had very little school opportunities in his youth, he has succeeded, by his persistant labor and studies and by constant observations from nature, to become one of the striking personalities of his Country, known not only by his folks but also by many a scientists of the other countries. He was a self-made man.

It was the intention of the Provancher Society of Natural History of Canada to commemorate the memory of such a man when the Comeau Memorial Committee was nominated a few months ago. The project of a bronze plaque, submitted by Mr. Jan Bailleul, Director of the School of Fine Arts, has just been approved. You will find enclosed a photo of the sketch and its description.

To carry out the execution of this project and of its architectural part, will cost from \$3,000 to \$4,000 and the Committee has immediately opened the subscription list.

We believe that you might be pleased to help the Comeau Memorial Committee by your subscription. Undoubtedly, all those who have known Comeau, whether personally or by his writings or correspondance, will consider it a duty to participate into this expression of the public gratitude.

Yours very truly,



President

The Comeau Memorial Committee

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Hon'y Treasurer:

MR. GEO. M. MITCHELL,
79 Maple Avenue, Quebec, P. Q.

QUEBEC, July 28th, 1925.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Research Associate Smithsonian Institution,
Lagunitas,
CALIFORNIA.-

Dear Sir:-

I have to acknowledge, on behalf
of the COMEAU MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, your cheque
in the sum of \$10.00. Please accept the thanks
of our Committee.

I have the honor to be,

Geo. M. Mitchell

Hon'y Treasurer.

Cormeau, Napoléon Alexandre, 1848-1923

1882-1884

83/129
c

Pointe des Monts
9th February 1882

My Dear Doctor

As you may see by
the heading of my letter I write
this away from home, I came
down here about a fortnight ago
for some seal shooting & have
not yet had favorable weather
to return, seeing the mail going
past to-day I take advantage of
it seeing that they are so few
& far between, in this part of
the country. I am afraid I
may forget something in the
present, as of course I have
not your letter here, however
I will do the best I can &
by

the next mail, will write again. Not
I would also like you to write as it
to me now & then, your letters season
are welcome I can assure you one so
& always very interesting to me was the
I say this without wishing to genera
flatter you, I have learned a here a
great deal since I have known which
you. & next year if you come young
I will show you what progress Seal.
I have made. For instance in - have
the matter of skulls, I had never which
noticed what great difference get
there is, when you come to ex The
amine them: between the diffe mentio
rent kinds of seals, I may very &
tell you in passing that I come
have secured several good - need to
ones, of the Harp Seal & one cimen
of the Harbor seal, of the Squon shot
-flipper so-called here, I have many to
quite

write again. Not succeeded in killing any
one to write as it is rather too early in the
our letter season for them, I saw only
one since I have been here, that
was the 2nd of this month. They
generally make their appearance
here about the 15th of March at
which time they deposit their
young on the ice like the Harp
Seal. I will endeavour, to pre-
pare the skeletons of the seals
which you want, & will try &
get as perfect & ones as possible.
The book on seals which you
mention as having sent me I am
very sorry to tell you has not
come to hand, but I have recie-
ved the others as also the spe-
cimen of the gros beak. I have
shot several here since then &
may tell you that the bird is
quite common here both sum-
mer

4
& winter, I have no doubt they
breed here, as I have often seen
them in the early part of the
fall while out trapping, they seem
to be fond of keeping near streams
or lakes. I am going to take your
advice & take notes of the arrival
& departure of our birds on this
coast, & will also try & shoot all
the different kinds that may
come round, & will preserve
them in order that you may
identify them, I am not quite
sure that I can do so yet, I
might perhaps make some mis-
take, especially in the smaller
birds. I am preserving all the
best skins of the sea birds that
I can shoot, so that if you
come round this summer you
will pick out whatever skins
you may want or take a
fancy.

My
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to, of the rarer ⁵ kinds, such as the
Labrador duck you speak of. I don't
believe it can be got in this
vicinity or even on the whole
coast, as I remember my father
mentioning as quite an unusual
thing, of having killed one about
twenty years ago, while we resided
at Nunquam.

With regard to the hiring of the
vessel for your trip down, I
think that you will do better
in Dublin, as you can get a
cleaner & better arranged vessel
there than here. I know a very
good man there who has a
small schooner, he is a trader
& has been along this coast
dozens of times. I think he
~~would~~ be just the man
for you. I will write to him
to-night, asking for information

6

He will let you know early
in the spring what his answer
may be, in case you might
like to communicate with him
I give you his address - -

Mr Louis Dupal

Trader

St John, Island of
Orleans. Que.

Pro. Que.

He is a very decent fellow &
talks English, which is a great
thing, as most of the these old
Canadian Capts do not understand
a word of that language -

I received by this last mail
a letter from our mutual
friend Judge Taschereau - he
tells me that he went over
to see you & spent some
time with you - His intentions
being much better I hope, as
he says "to scratch through" his

illness -
the Pro.
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7
- illness. Apropos of my trip to
the Rocky mountains, I may tell
you that I am going there some
time in August next if all goes
well with me. I am going there
with a french nobleman, the Baron
Ernest de La frange, I was in-
troduced to him in Quebec by
a friend of mine, & he has taken
a fancy to me & offers to pay all
expenses if I will go with him
it the same time enjoy all
the shooting we may be able to
have together. I think it is a
very good chance to see some
thing of the country & will take
advantage of it. His main object
in going there is for buffalo hunting.

I think it pretty reasonable
now that I should finish, I want
to keep something for my next
& perhaps by that time I may
have something more to say.
about

animals, birds or fishes

Let me thank you for the books
you were kind enough to send me
they will always be to me a kind
remembrance of your visit.

We have an unusually cold winter
that is for steady cold weather, I
have seen it much colder sometimes
here, but not of such long duration
from fifteen to thirty-five degrees
below zero has been what we
have had for the last three weeks.

There is very little snow on the
ground, about two feet I should
say on the level.

Mr. Comman wishes to be kindly
remembered.

With kind regards & best
wishes believe me

Yours truly
Prof. A. Comman

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Godbout 24th March /82

C. Hart Merriam Esq
Locust Grove
New York

My Dear Sir

When I wrote to you last Feb. I was away from here as, I think I mentioned at the time & therefore believe I omitted something, to-day I have consulted your letter & will try & make up for what I may have forgotten. First, with regard to the Carolina Dove, I shot it on the 10th of October, it was a male and appeared to me to be an old bird, I had taken a note of it here at the time, & when I wrote last could not give you exact date, if I mentioned it, at all.

Now I come to the question of seals of the
I am very sorry to say that I have
have not received Prof. Allen's in lar-
work - but your mention of his most.
name, put me in mind of some smaller
thing I had seen in the "Field" about
about it. & therefore I hunted up
in my old papers & found some
notes on the Phocidae. From what
I can see by it, we have here for
certain - Phoca vitulina, P. groenlan-
dica, P. foetida & Cystophora
cristata. P. foetida I have never
shot myself, but have seen their
skin, which is almost useless
for leather, if it is what I
mean; they are very solitary in
their habits, they frequent the
large bays on this coast prin-
cipally about the Manicouagan
shoals, during the winter they
have a hole through the ice
which they keep open, most
of the
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Biscia
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of the time they³ lie on the ice.
I have often seen them but never
in large numbers two or three at
most. The skin I have seen was
smaller than that of P. groenlandica
about five feet long or so.

Besides the above we have the
"Squar Flipper" & I am inclined
to believe another seal, which
may be P. Erythrus, however I will
not say much about it at present
but will be on the lookout for
them you may be sure. I hope
when you come round again I
will be able to show you some-
thing interesting in that line.

I have saved several skulls
of the Harp seal, common seal
beavers, lugs, & one fisher for you
& am now doing the best I
can to get the Squar flipper
but so far without success.

I have also secured a splendid

Male of the Harp Seal, an unusually
large one & will save the skeleton
You did not say anything with
regard to the sex, for the skeleton,
but if I have the time I will
save one of each sex, & if you
don't want them, why, it won't
be a great loss.

There is now no doubt at all about
the birds we saw together at the
pool on the river, since writing to
you I have killed several more
& they are the same as the one
you sent me. I have also shot
what I make out to be the Red-poll
Linnel (*Oregothus Linarius*), they are
here all winter in large numbers
& go in flocks. They seemed to be
very fond of the seed of the fruit of
the Mountain ash, & always alighted
in that tree in preference to any
other.

I have now something else
to speak about, you remember no
doubt the large bunches of eggs

C. Harp
Seal

last year
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that we picked up on the beach
 here, & which you told me were
 the eggs of the whelk, & from
 which I differed from you in
 opinion, as I thought they were the
 eggs of a species of rock eel, which
 we have on the coast. Well since
 then I have examined a large
 number of bunches of them, both
 fresh & old, & I ^{can} say to tell you
 am not yet quite convinced.
 in most of the bunches it is true
 I have found, innumerable quantities
 of small whelks, sometimes half a
 dozen or more in one cell, but
 then they were not fresh but
 had been knocking about for I don't
 know how long. & the cell seemed
 to be open. I have now one batch
 on hand, which was firmly attached
 to the under part of a rock, &
 which I secured some time last
 summer, I think it was about

a couple of weeks ⁶ after you left,
they appear to me to be the same
thing only they were quite fresh
& round; well, in them I can plainly
see the germ of a fish, I
have preserved them, & will
show them to you, whenever we
meet again. I may perhaps be
mistaken after all, if so, I will
apologize to you in due time
for having doubted your state-
ment.

The weather is now beginning a little
to creep over us, some of our spring birds
have put in an appearance. The crows
have been earlier than usual, on the 20th of Feb I saw
three of them, this was about
a week earlier than they generally
come, I have known them to winter
here, but that is very rare.

yesterday I saw a wild goose

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from

⁷
(Branta canadensis) it was going
west, no doubt it thought the
weather was too cold here yet
& it was seeking a more genial
climate.

I hope you are still decided
to come round this way again
in July next, & that you will
give me a call in passing, so
that if by chance I did not
go west, that is to the Rockies,
I might perhaps join you for
beginning a cruise down the gulf, if you
own spring are willing to take an extra pas-
senger. I would try & make my-
self as useful as possible in
securing specimens if I did not
do anything better. I will not
generally say anything more about this at pre-
sent, but will talk it over
when you come.

Occasionally when you have

a spare moment drop me a line
or two, & I will do the same towards
you. Be careful when you write
or send me any books or anything
else by mail to address, Godbout
County of Saguenay. Several of
my letters & other things have gone
astray, & it is only lately that I
have found out that they were sent
to River Gilbert, (Beauce gold mines
Gilbert when hurriedly written
looking very much like Godbout
to the careless clerks of some of
our Post offices.

I will now wish you good bye
& hope to hear from you soon
with best wishes possible, from
Mrs C. & self.

I remain
Yours Truly
Nap. A. Bonneau

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Godbout May 7th 1882

Mr. C. H. Merriam M.D.
Locust Grove
New York.

My Dear Doctor

Our long winter has at last come to an end & our shores are free of ice once more & with the opening of navigation our means of communicating with the outer world are somewhat easier & to-day I take advantage of our first mail via Rimouski to write to you. I will begin by telling you that I have secured quite a lot of "square flippers", beyond my most sanguine expectations, having shot myself, six of them. I have preserved for you one of the largest skeletons, a female, besides this, I have fourteen skulls, which is nearly all that was killed, between all the hunters this spring. Of the Harp Seal I have also one fine skeleton a large male & a good many skulls. Of the harbor seal I have not had a chance of securing an adult

specimens, but of course have a good
chance of doing so any day if I went
to Mamcong an shoals, which I may
probably do about the end of this month.
I need not tell you that I am all
eyes, in the way of looking for birds &c.
& have made notes of the arrivals of
all I could see so far, I have also shot
a good many, most of which I knew
but some have puzzled me even
with the use of the "key" these I keep
until you such time as you may
come round, which I hope will be
long now. Sometime ago I received
a letter from the Capt of the trading
vessel I mentioned to you, he wants
to know how much you would give
him per day & how long you could
employ him. You had perhaps better
write to him direct & get any infor-
-mation you want from him with
regards to his vessel, the time he
would be ready for the trip &c. &
at the same time let him know
your conditions, in case you may
have mislaid his address, I again
give it to you. viz. —

Capt
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Larus
6 2 1/2 in
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Larus
Larus
birds,

Capt Louis Duval
St John Island of Orleans
Pro - Quebec

This ought to fetch him every time
if you are still decided to come down
for a cruise on your own hook, I think
you could not do better than engage
him as you will find him to be a reliable
and honest man. & thoroughly acquainted
with the coast.

The spring has been very backward with
us, at the moment of writing it is bitterly
cold, we are still surrounded with
snow, birds are late in coming, even
our harary sea ducks have scarcely put
in an appearance. On the 29th of April
I shot a fine specimen of the ice gull
(Larus glaucus) it measured in extent
6 2 1/2 inches - I have preserved its skin
for you - Is the savanna sparrow a
very early bird in its migration? I
shot one here on the 21st of April, there
was barely enough ground then visible
to hold it, how it managed to get
along I don't know, it was in pretty
fair condition, this was the first
summer migrant that I saw -
I am speaking of course of small
birds, sea ducks &c. make their

appearance some time before that,
I have made out a list of all
the birds that I know to occur here &
which I have shot myself, nothing
will be inserted, of which I am
not certain, I will show it to you
when you come & I hope that
by that ~~time~~ I will have added
more to it - Let me hear from
you, if you have some spare moment
your letters are always very welcome.
How I regret, not having made your
acquaintance sooner! I am sure that
in ramblings round this coast I
must have lost some fine chances
of observing some facts in connection
with ~~birds~~ &c. that would be very
interesting & all this from want of
example. However there is no use of
crying over spilled milk & I will
try & make up for what I have
lost. With kindest regards & best
wishes from Mr. C. & self

Believe me

Yours Truly

Nap. A. Comenay

Mr. C.

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Godbout June 5th 1882

C. H. Merriam Esq
Locust Grove
N. Y.

My Dear Doctor

I received this mor-
-ning your favor of 23rd May.
I had been expecting it for some
days, & thought, rightly as it appears
now, that you were very busy
or absent somewhere, which did
not allow of your writing sooner.

I suppose the wet & chilly wea-
-ther that we have had this spring
has had a good deal to do, in the
way of causing sickness. I have
not been very well myself for
some time past & am only get-
ting back to my old self, since
a week or so, the trouble with
me was pleurisy, brought on by
exposure to wet & cold. I suppose

while engaged² in my favorite pastime of hunting & shooting.

This unfortunately prevented me from collecting specimens as I wished to do, & by having lost so much time I am now very busy preparing for the seasons salmon fishing. I made it a duty however to take an hour every day in the interest of science & all things considered I have been pretty successful. I have skinned & preserved for you the following birds viz--

- 1. Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus Torquatus*) ♂
- 1. Ice Gull (*Larus flaucus*) ♂
- 1. Bonaparte's Gull (*Larus Thalasassifilia*) ♂
- 1. Common Tern (*Sterna Hirundo*) ♂
- 1. Golden Eye (*Bucephala clangula*) ♂
- 1. " " " " (*Islandica*) "
- 1. Sea Pigeon (*Uria grylle*) winter plumage ♂
- 1. Small Auk or Sea Dove (*Mergulus alle*) ♀

These birds I will box up carefully & send by first Steamer to Quebec to be forwarded as per address given by you. Now I want you to accept them in remembrance of your friend Concan. If I have made any mistake in the naming of these birds, please

correct some of the mistakes. I will send them a few for collection. I shall be one of the male (Dafila) this. I shot ago, & to yet (Pineol) of which spruce inches the black the, bra think what If goes up the bird & that bird

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correct me. I will also enclose
some small birds, which I cannot
identify or am not sure about, they
will be numbered & you can let
me know, what each No is. Some of
them are pretty well cut up, as I use
a ten-bore gun (the smallest I have)
for collecting, but I dare say you
will have enough to know them by.

I shot two rare visitors lately, 1st
one Carolina Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*)
male killed June 6th/82, one Pintail
(*Lafila acuta*) male killed June 7th/82.
this last named bird is very rare here
I shot one some seven or eight years
ago, & never saw any since then, up
to yesterday. I also killed a Pine Grosbeak
(*Pinicola enucleator*) on the 6th in the vicinity
of where I shot it. I found in a small
spruce tree an unfinished nest about seven
inches in diameter & composed mostly of
the black & white moss that hangs from
the branches of most spruce trees. Do you
think it was its nest & do you know with
what they generally build?

If I have the leisure before the mail
goes up, I will make out a list of all
the birds that I have been able to identify
& that I know to occur here. No bird
will be mentioned in it, that I

have not shot ⁴myself. If you care
about publishing it or using it in any
other way you can do so. of course
it will not be very complete because
I know of several species of Hawks
& Owls, of which I am unable to
name properly at present as I have
no specimen on hand, & I do not
wish to enter anything that I am
not quite
sure of -

With regard to the skeletons
of the seals, how will I arrange, shall
I send them at their whole length as
they are? or will I separate them? one
of them is about nine feet long as
it is. please let me know in your
next what you think would be the
best way to pack them. would a barrel
be preferable to a box? The skulls I will
send by first steamer. this will
be about the contents of the box -

- 2 Skulls Harbor Seal
- 8 " Harp "
- 14 " Square Flipper "
- 5 " Canada Lynx
- 9 " Beaver

Should there be one more or less
it would make a great difference
however if I am not in haste to morrow
I will count them over & place the
list in the box. as regards the price

C. H. M.
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of these, I do not⁵ care about fixing it
myself, for two reasons first I do not
know their value, second, they may not
be cleaned as they ought to, allow me
to say however that if the seal skulls
are good, I consider your offer of
fifty cents each a very fair price for
them, the other skulls I do not consid-
er of equal value, as there is much
less work on them, you will therefore
examine them & any price you may
fix, will be considered correct &
satisfactory, The skeletons will be \$3.00
(three dollars) each for seals & \$1.00 (one dollar) for the
fisher. The amount whatever it
may be, you will please remit by
money order to my agents in Quebec
Messrs Beaudet & Chiriac

55 & 57 St Peter St

All the skulls & skeletons are la-
belled as you advised me to do

I suppose I shall have to give in
about the Whelks eggs, with the long
Latin name, as you ought to know to
a certainty what they really are, &
you will explain the whole story
to me when we meet next.

I see by the Bull, which you

were kind enough to enclose in your
letter, some remarks on Chen Hyperboreum
or Snow goose, now what I want
to know is this, is there any other
variety of this goose that is entirely
white, no black on the primaries, or
any where else, but white all over?

I cannot give you a decisive
answer about my going West
at present, by this last mail I
received a letter from the Baron
he simply says that he is coming
down here, next week, with a friend
of his, the Viscount Talhouet, who
I heard had the intention of joining
him to go hunting, in all probability
he comes down here with a view of
making final arrangements about going
there, if so I will let you know in
my next, In any case I don't suppose
we would leave here before the 20th of
August or perhaps a few days later
so that if you come down this way
don't fail to come round & see
if I am here, especially if it was

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earlier than the date mentioned,
which I dare say would be the case
if you came down, at all events
let me know whenever you may be
certain of coming & about what
date. No doubt the Judge will be
around here some time in July, to
get a few days fishing, when last
I heard from him in Feb, such was
his intention.

We are just beginning to catch
some salmon & yesterday I got
the first of the season, to-day I
killed another one, of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs, a splen-
did fish, & how nice he tasted, there
I won't say any more, I am sure
I make your mouth water just
by thinking of it, to make up for
this tantalizing you I will endeavor
to get as fine a one for our dinner
if you come here this season.

I see by the Quebec papers that
Capt Dugut has sold his schooner,
but probably with the intention of
buying another craft more suitable
for his purpose, in any case you
can rely on him if he offers to

Take you down on the coast
I have always known him for a very
honest & able man.

Hoping to hear from you at your
earliest convenience & with best
regards from Mrs C & self

Believe me

Yours truly

Nap. A. Comenay

P.S. I forgot to add to the list
of skins sent one female Eider
(*Somateria mollissima*), & another
thing, to thank you for your
photographs, I am sorry to tell
you I cannot return the com-
pliment as I have none of mine
on hand, I may do so at some
future day. However, if I go
back to civilization

You will observe some difference
in the shape & size of the skulls of
the "Square Flippers", I enclose a note
I took at the time of shooting them
it may assist you in identifying
them. N.A.C.

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Note to skull of Square Flipper h^o 1, 2, 3.
Were of the variety called "Dark"
here, with numerous white spots &
were evidently at the adult stage
as they had deposited their young
a few days previously (April 6th time
shot) the supply of milk being still
abundant.

Note to h^o 4 & 5, no doubt of the
same species, but might be a variety
color of the hair entirely different
being dirty white on the under
parts, broad dark streak on back,
no spots, same shape & number of
teeth, size much smaller, one had
half young.

In the other skulls the variety
is distinguished by the words "Dark",
"White".

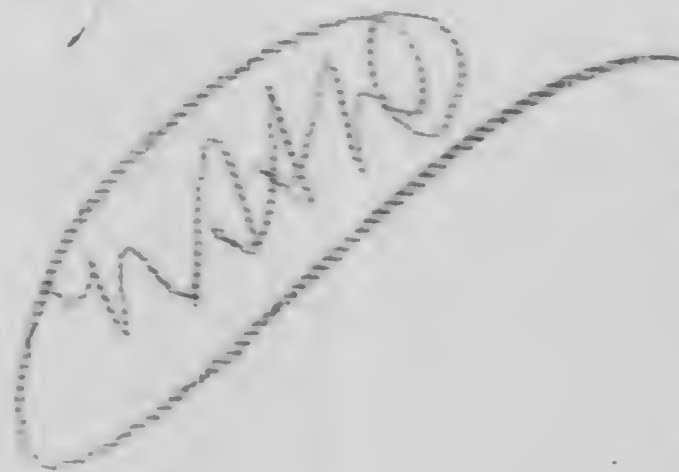
Hap. A. Cornean
Godhavn 8th June / 52



C. DARVEAU, Printer

C. H. Merriam
Port Leyden
New York

via
Apicewbung



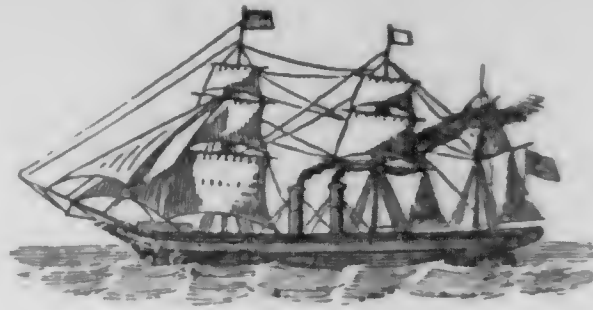
Shipped, in good order and condition by **NAP. A. COMEAU,** of RIVER
GODBOUT, and consigned to Messrs A. Fraser & Co in and upon the
S. S. "Otter" whereof Capt May is Master
for this present voyage; and now lying in the Port of River Godbout, viz :

2 Boxes of Specimens

Being marked and numbered as per margin; and are to be delivered in the like good order and condition, at
the Port of Quebec (all and every the Dangers and Accidents of the Seas, Rivers
and Navigation, of whatsoever nature and kind excepted,) he or they paying Freight for said Goods at the
rate as per tariff

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Master or Purser of the said Vessel hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading
all of this Tenor and Date; one of which being accomplished the rest to stand void.

Dated at RIVER GODBOUT, this 10th day of June 1882



Shipped, in good order and condition, by **A. FRASER & Co.,** of QUEBEC, and
consigned to C. H. Merriam M.D. in and upon the Steamer
Montréal whereof _____
is Master for this present Voyage, and now lying in the PORT OF QUEBEC, viz.:

C. H. Merriam
Port Leyden
New York.

Two (2) Boxes Specimens of Natural History
from N.A. Corgan
Cochabuta

Paid to Prescott \$1.05

Prescott & Thence
Being marked and numbered as per margin; and are to be delivered in like good order and well conditioned, at the
aforesaid Port of Port Leyden New York to Odensburg
(the Act of God, the Queen's Enemies, Fire, and all and every the Dangers and Accidents of the Seas, Rivers and
Navigation of whatsoever nature and kind excepted,) he or they paying Freight for said Goods, at

freight prepaid

In Witness whereof, the Master or Purser of said Vessel hath affirmed to 3 Bills of
Lading, all of this Tenor and Date; one of which being accomplished, the rest to stand void.

DATED AT QUEBEC, this 16 day of June 1882.

Fort Washakie Wyoming
Sept 25th/82

C. Hart Merriam Esq
Locust Grove, N. Y.

My Dear Doctor.

We have just returned here after a months hunting about the Big Horn Mountains, we did not go to Montana as we had proposed, having been assured that we would get good hunting here & such was the case, I think we have been very successful indeed, so much so that we are going to stand anew on the 28th inst for another month at it.

This time we will hunt in the Shoshonee Range &

we expect to have a good time
among the elk & black tailed deer.

Our score so far has been twenty
seven buffalos, two grizzlies, five
elk, three black tailed deer & an
antelope just as much as we can
get, of the above lot I have
to my credit, seventeen buffalos
one grizzly (who by the way very
nearly ended my sport) two elk
two black tails & seven antelopes,
this is not too bad for a
green horn, I had lots of fun
besides that, had a good buck
-ing horse, was present at a show
-ing, affray that occurred &
taking it altogether had a
lively time of it

I would very much like to
hear from you if you have
the time to write, you might

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address your letters here & I would
be sure to get ^{them} on our return
trip as we are coming out in
this direction.

I hope you are quite well &
in good spirits & have not wor-
ried yourself to death over the
old seal skeletons, which I sup-
pose reached you in good
time.

I would like to know if
there is anything I could
do for you in this part
of the country, if so please
mention it & I will do
my best to please you

I remember your having
told me something about
a small animal, a sort
of squirrel if I mistake
not, which you said you

wanted to procure, I made a
note of it at the time, but
some way or other have mislaid
or lost it, let me know
what it was you wanted

Hoping to hear from you
on my return & with kindest
regards & best wishes, believe
me

Yours very truly
Chas. A. Conway

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Quebec February 17th 83

My Dear Doctor

I received your letter of the 15th this afternoon. I suppose that mine must have been delayed on the road somewhere probably the train was behind time on account of the snow.

The Quebec Central Railway is completely blocked up & has ceased running, & will not be in order before two or three weeks.

So you have decided to go on that sealing expedition. I wish I could join you & have some shooting together. This time of trip you are going to have should be exactly according to my

you will secure some good specimens & make some
important discoveries.

I remain yours very truly
Wm. L. Garrison
My best wishes go with you N. A. C.

taste & fancy - I hope you
will have all the success you
deserve. You are pretty sure
to have your fill of skeletons
skulls & a good many other
things probably not bargained
for, of these latter I hope
they will be few - I have
no idea at all, of how these
Steamers are kept, but for
your sake hope that they
are cleaner than the sealers
of the Esquimaux Point.

Notwithstanding these little
drawbacks, I will still en-
courage you to go, I am sure
it will be a very inter-
esting trip for you - in every
way - I have need to get
you some information

with regard to the sailing
of Steamers from Halifax, for
St. John's Nfld. - From what
I hear it appears that the date
of departure of the S.S. "New from
Iceland" from Halifax, is the
1st & 15th of each month. They
are liable to some delays
however owing to ice or stormy
weather, consequently they do
not advertise, in order not to
mislead the public. - If my
information is correct the
last steamer; I mean the
last date of sailing was on
the 13th inst.

I am afraid I must give
up all hopes of seeing you for
for the present at least, but
I am more sanguine than you
are & expect to see you before
the lapse of many months

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instead of years, as your letter would give
me to understand. Surely you do not in-
tend to give up, what you have so ably begun
on the North Shore of the St Lawrence. Therefore
I hope to see you again round my place some
time next season if at all possible for you.

I shall be very anxious to hear of your safe arrival
back at Locust Grove, & will expect a word
or two from you then, telling me that you have
escaped being drowned in seal oil. Hoping
you will secure some good specimens & make some
important discoveries.

I remain Yours very truly

Mrs. A. Leomeau wishes to be kindly remembered, & once more
my best wishes go with you N.A.C.

Talk & fancy - I hope you
will have all the success you
deserve. You are pretty sure
to have your fill of skeletons
skulls & a good many other
things - probably not bargained
for, of these latter I hope
they will be few - I have
no idea at all, of how these
steamer are kept, but for
your sake hope that they
are cleaner than the vessels
of the Esquimaux sort.
Notwithstanding these little
drawbacks, I will still en-
courage you to go, & I am sure
it will be a very interest-
ing trip for you - in every
way - I have been to get
you some information.

I have sent that paper of
yours, on that Sugar eating
beetle, to one of the Professors
of the Laval University here
to ascertain whether the insect
is to be found in Canada,

M. L. L. -

Quebec March 27th /83

C. Hart Merriam Esq
St John Newfoundland

My Dear Doctor

I am glad to hear that you managed to get a snug berth on board of the "Proteus", I had no doubt but what you would make the best of the situation. I hope you will have all the success you deserve for your courage, for it does require some courage to embark oneself in a vessel which is destined to be filled with blubber & other obnoxious things. However there is few things which a true naturalist won't do in the interest of science & I believe you are one of that number.

When the monster caught hold of it, after a long fight during which he fired three shots at the

Had my purse allowed such an expense I would have met you in Halifax, I tried to raise the necessary funds, but could not do so. I was very angry against my friend the Baron La France on that account. He still owes me a hundred dollars, & has gone away without paying them. I am afraid I have seen the last of him without standing his promise to the contrary. I have not done much this winter here, in fact hardly knew what to do with myself for a while. I tried to find some employment, but it appears that in the winter every thing is at a stand still here.

I went out hunting & fishing a couple of times, that helped to pass the time. I also

got introduced to the different
Literary & Historical Institutions
of this City, & used to spend
part of my time there in study
& reading. I also gave a lecture
under the auspices of the "Geo-
graphical Society of Quebec"
subject "The Physical Geography
of the Northern portion of the
Province of Quebec." It was
very favourably received & I was
rewarded by a vote of thanks
& made an honorary member
of the Society.

I have also learned tele-
graphing as I expect that
we shall have an office at
Jodabont some time next
year. I have news from
the coast, it appears that
the seal hunting there has
been very good. My brother

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C. Hart
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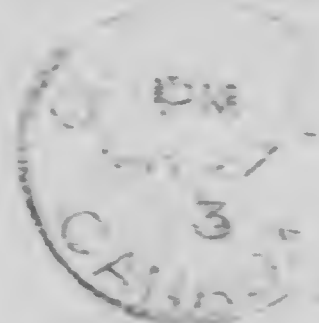
one of

- writes me that he had ⁴ killed 47 up to the 12th of March, he has saved some skulls, & I believe a couple of skins, if you want them, after your return please let me know, I would not wish to force you to take them out of kindness, (because you said you would), but tell me plainly if you require them, I can always find means of disposing of them to some of the Natives here - A very unusual occurrence took place at Point des Monts on the 25th of Feb last, one of the seal hunters there was attacked by a Greenland shark, he had just killed a seal & was preparing to haul it in his canoe when the monster caught hold of it, after a tough fight diving, which he fired three shots at the

Had my horse allowed such an expense I would have met you in Halifax, I need to raise the necessary funds, but could not do so. I was very angry against my friend the Baron & I thought on that account, He still sees me a hundred dollars, & has sent away without paying them. I am afraid I have seen the last of him without standing in proximity to the contrary. I have not done since this winter here, in fact hardly knew what to do with myself for a while, I need to find some employment now, but it appears that in the winter every thing is at a stand still here. I went out hunting & fishing a couple of times, that helped to pass the time, I also

- Shark he succeeded ⁵ in killing it, & dragged it ashore. It measured fourteen feet long, weighed about five to six hundred pounds. They opened the stomach, which appeared pretty well distended & they found the remnants of a seal, the flippers had been swallowed entire, besides this there was the half digested remains of several kinds of fish, such as flounders, sculpins, & a species of rock eel. This fellow must have had a good appetite. I hope to hear from you again shortly. Address me at Godbout, as I intend to leave for home about the 15th of April. Mr. Coman wishes you all possible success & hopes to see you down at Godbout again, & so also does, yours very truly Nat. A. Coman

Via Halifax N.S.



Mr. C. Hart Merriam M.D.

On board sealing S.S. "Proteus"

St. John's Newfoundland

The Captain of the "Proteus" will please remit
this letter to its address, or if Mr. Merriam is
absent send to Locust Grove
Lewis County New York

Godbout May 21st / 83

C. Hart Merriam Esq M. D.

Locust Grove Lewis County
New York

My dear Doctor

I received your letter dated
18th April from St John's N.Y. by the
packet via Rimouski by the mail
of the 15th inst, & now take advantage
of return of the same to congratulate
-te you on your safe return & toler-
ably good success. I heard long-
before leaving Quebec of the
good trip the "Proteus" had made.

How disgusted you must have
felt when obliged to leave that
fine old specimen of a hooded
seal, the more especially so, as
you had already done a good
deal of work on it. I suppose
however that all things considered

Yours

you do not regret your trip. Your question with regard to the inflation of the hood I cannot answer as I have not had sufficient opportunity of late to observe, but I believe that the loose flaps of skin which are shrunk on the nose are inflated by air from the nostrils. I remember very distinctly of having killed a large male when quite a boy.

The facts were these. I happened to be going along the beach one day & saw this huge seal high & dry on the beach, on seeing me it bellowed very loudly, & as I had no weapon of any kind in my hands, I turned round & ran home for a gun. Unfortunately for me my father happened to be away & had the gun with him so I ran to the wood pile & seized a large axe that was there, & returned to the attack. The seal had dragged itself down quite a piece & was nearing the water, when I reached it & struck at it with the axe, almost

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over forty
450 lbs of
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not less)
potatoes.

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inflated
I remember
my killer
a boy.
opened a
one day
& lay on
belly on
weapon
I turned
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happened
with him
& seized
& returned
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& was
reached it
axe, almost

immediately the hood was inflated
& without troubling my striking it hard
on the nose & head I could not kill
it, till I thought of using the sharp
edge of the axe, when the hood in-
stantly collapsed. I have no mea-
surements of that seal, but remember
very well that it yielded a little
over forty five gallons of oil, or say
450 lbs of fat. It was not in very
prime condition. It had been
wounded in the neck with buck
shot & subsequently had been
chased by some shark, or other
like fish, which had cut it
badly in some places about
the hind flippers, it was
no doubt to take refuge from
these that it had come ashore
While lying on the beach, for
some inexplicable reason it had
swallowed some seven or eight
stones perhaps more, (certainly
not less) of the size of ordinary
potatoes. These stones were taken

while on the shore because they
correspond exactly with those in
the vicinity. My brother has saved
some twenty or more skulls of seals
& I have for you here, one or two
more, I also got from a trapper
here a carcass of a wolverine a
large one, it has some little dama-
ge ~~to~~ about the ribs, as it was
preyed upon by another one, when
in the trap after it was caught.
I will save it as it is in case
it might be useful to you.

I have also a skin of a Harp Seal
adult & a small skin of a seal
which I take to be a young harp
in strange plumage, it is curiously
spotted, & has a pale dirty white
colored ring around the eyes.

It was short & chunky compared
to the others, the skulls were left
in them. I am a little pressed
for time on the moment as I
have several more letters to write
so I will conclude for the pre-
sent & resume on Saturday

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18th April
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next when I shall have an
other opportunity of writing by
the S.S. "Otter," which will begin
to run regularly after this.

I have some new specimens of
birds which I want you to take
note of - I will send you what
is left of their skins.

I have a strike or Butcher bird
a bobolink or rice bird I believe
✓ a kind of fly catcher which I
do not remember of having shown
you last year.

Another Carolina Dove was
shot by my youngest brother
last fall in September.

With kind regards & best wishes
from Mrs C & self -

Believe me
Yours truly
Thos. A. Cornean

Remember me to Mr. Walter

No. 71?

Godbout June 5th/82

C. Hart Merriam Esq
Locust Grove, Lewis County
New York

My Dear Doctor

I wrote to you some time ago & promised to do so again, but since then I have had no chance to send any letters. The mail went by without stopping so I lost that opportunity. I have not heard from you for a good while now, not since you wrote from St John N. H. I hope however that you are enjoying the best of health & that it is only work which prevents you from writing.

Since writing to you I have had the sad misfortune of losing a well beloved sister. Her death was very sudden & unexpected, & we were all greatly shocked, in truth I have not been quite myself since that time.

I send you to-day a small box of bird skins, some of them, I believe I know, but to make quite sure I

thought

to send to send them to you, you
will please give me the correct names,
by return of mail, (as per numbers.)

I never saw so many birds around the
place, as this present spring, robins
blackbirds, shrikes, sparrows, snow birds
(Chimney), *Geothlypis Albigula*, were exces-
sively numerous, in fact all the different
kind of our northern birds seemed to be
more abundant than usual, to-day I
saw a black-bellied magpie, the first this
season. What surprises me is that
the season is an unusually late
one, but the birds came as early as
usual.

I have received the box of
skulls &c. from my brother & will take
advantage of the S. S. "Otter" to send
it up to Quebec, I will address
it to Mr. Prescott or Ogdenburgh as
usual. I hope you will get it
all right.

Will you have the time to take
a stroll down this way this season?
I hope so & if you do, I hope I shall
be able to go for a few days
with you. Write about this later on.
Let me know in your next what
you intend to do this season.

Dear -

Did you get any birds in N. H.?
Another thing - Did you see any of
the young of the "hor sea seal," I mean
quite young. Prof. Allen says they are
white, & I say they are not, the color
of those I saw, was a dirty white on
the belly & a dark grayish band
almost the whole width of the back
from head to tail & no spots.

one year old, same color, 2nd year
a few spots begin to show, principally
about the head & neck. Is that
correct? While on the subject
of seals - I want to know if you
have tasted any seal steak &
how did you like it?

The fishing season is just open-
ing & yesterday we tasted the
first salmon of the season.
Now I wish you could have
shared it with me - I hope the
thing is only postponed. Trout
are pretty numerous, & we have
been killing some since the 25th May

Hoping to hear from you

C. W.
L.

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myself,
I see
bird of
know,

Shortly believe me

Yours truly
Wm. A. Courman

Mrs Courman wishes to be kindly remembered,

It seems to send them to you, for
will please give me the correct names,
by relation of name, (as per numbers.)
I never saw so many birds around the
place, as this present spring, nothing
blackbirds, shrikes, sparrows, downy
(chickadees), robins, bluebirds, even crows
society numbers, in fact all the different
kind of our northern birds seemed to be
more abundant than usual, to-day I
saw a black-bird, the first I
saw. What surprise me is that
the reason is an unusually late
one, but the birds came so early as
usual - I have never seen the boys of
shrikes &c. from any brother & will take
advantage of the S. S. "thru" to send
it up to Quebec, I will add that
it was the cost of \$2.00 although as
usual, & hope you will get it
all right.
While you have the time to take
a short drive this way this season,
I hope so, if you do, I hope I shall
be able to go & see some things
with you. Write about them later on.
Let me know in your next what
you intend to do this season -
Yours truly -
Wm. A.

The Country North of Lake St. John.

It has already been noticed in our columns, that through the exertions of the Geographical Society of Quebec, a survey is about to be undertaken of the remarkable country lying between Lake St. John and Hudson's Bay. A large proportion of the cost of this expedition will very properly be borne by the Governments of the Dominion and of Quebec. The surveying party will leave Quebec early in July, and will be absent about a year. The leader is to be Mr. John Bignell, P.L.S., of this city, a gentleman who is admirably adapted for the responsible position, being conversant with all the Indian dialects of the district, and one of the few white men who have ever visited it. The second officer will be Mr. E. Coste, M. E., of L'Ecole des Mines Paris. Mr. A. Comeau of Godbout, will also accompany the party as naturalist. The rest of the party will be Indians. The directions for the guidance of the party have been prepared, we believe, by Professor Selwyn. Those principally interesting the public are as follows :—

1st. A thorough survey by diographical and topographical of the Lake Mastissini, especially of the northern and eastern portions not previously surveyed.

2nd, A geological examination of the Lake Shore and of as much of the adjacent country as may be practicable.

3rd. The collection of specimens, vegetable, animal and mineral, illustrative of the resources of the region.

It is also important that a survey should be made of the Rupert River, through which the waters of Lake Mistassini discharge into James Bay.

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Got about July 5th/83

C. Hart Merriam Esq
Locust Grove Lewis County
New York

My dear Doctor

I am just in receipt
of your letter of the 23rd of
June. I am very much
interested in what you
tell me about the birds.
The vireo you speak of
was found by me, I
without a doubt comes
from here, & now I believe
I saw a couple later on
but of course could not
be positive, because I did
not kill them, as I had
no gun with me at the

time, Is this ^{bird} rather rare, or, next
is it out of its usual habitat for such
How about the Bobolinks I am
is not this rather a strange bad
part of the country for him boys
to be in? I cannot for the to be
moment give you the dates all
of the capture of these birds in a
as I am writing this letter & from
at "Mr. filmour's house", of an over
course you are aware that Hunder
this is a busy time for me teacher
& I have very little leisure. Doctor
I have been so occupied of in the
late with one thing or an all else
another that I have not had a moment
time to attend to that box
of skulls for you. I will however
-never try & ship it by papers

on, or, next trip of the S.S. "Otter"
natural for Lubeck. I am afraid
I am getting to be rather a
change bad boy, like most of them
for him boy. you read of, have got
The to be fond of travelling. In
the dates all probabilities I will leave
Lubeck in a week or two for Lubeck
letter & from there, start out on
of an overland journey to
Hudson Bay. Thanks to the
for me teachings of my friend
Dr. Merriam, I go there
in the capacity of naturalist
or an all expenses paid & \$125.00
not have a month. I enclose a chf
box from one of the Lubeck
will be papers which will give
by you

an idea of what sort of a
trip it is going to be. I wish
you would write me again
before I leave & let me
know if I could do ^{a bit} some-
thing that would interest
you while out there. I have
no doubt we shall find some
birds there, that do not range
on this coast.

If I come back early enough
in the spring (or should I not go)
I will try to get the hoods for
you, they are not common
but a few are shot every year.
I will let my brother know
of this & he may be able to
procure them in my absence.
Did you get fat on seals
meat or flippers? or perhaps

C. F. R.

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You just eat enough to
combat the influence of
the cold - I am glad to
hear of Mr. Walter's success
give him my regards & best
wishes for a continuation of
the same.

I have not collected any
birds since I sent you that
box, as I have been too busy
to attend to it, but I have
no doubt some more speci-
mens might be got, of a few
other kinds of birds I will
leave that for some future
season -

The season has been a
very poor one for salmon
fishing on the North Shore
& the rivers have been ^{very} ~~very~~ ^{still}

unusually high, we had rain
almost every day in June
vegetation was very late?
The mountain-ash & wild
choke cherries are still in blos-
som - We had some frost
here on the 3rd inst -

Have not heard anything
from the old judge so
far, have you?

Mrs Comman wishes to be
kindly remembered -

Hoping to hear from you
soon believe me

Yours truly
Thos. A. Comman

address thus

Care of A. Fraser & Co
for - P. S. "Otter" from
Lubeck

Godbout August 8th / 83

My Dear Doctor

I have been very much disappointed with regard to that expedition, after having a great deal of trouble & bother in making necessary preparations, it now turns out, as mostly all things in Canada to be the ground for some political squabble. From what I can see at present, it will most likely be abandoned, or if continued, will only be as far as the Pro- of Quebec extends, some two hundred miles. It may give you some idea of how things are managed in this country, when I tell you that, it is only because the name of the Minister of Public Works, Hon. Mr. Langevin, was not mentioned as in connection with it, that he got quelled, as they say, & opposed the

project by all possible means at his disposal. The upshot of it was that the funds promised by the Federal government \$3,000 were not to be had. The local government Pro. of Quebec, had voted an equal sum, but only on condition that it should be expended within the limits of the Pro. The geological Bureau supplies also a like amount, but only to be expended for that particular branch. So there it stands. I was ordered to Quebec on the 14th of last month, & went there, & was asked to join the local expedition to ascend the Bersimis river, which I would not do, as I have seen nearly all that part of the country, & besides I did not think it would be very interesting. Out of all this I have one consolation, it is this, that I have got them to pay me for all my loss of time & other expenses. To tell you that I was vexed & annoyed with the whole thing, is no word for it. I could have ~~ceased~~ the whole set of them.

I have packed & sent to you by

the Steamer
Quebec
Agassiz
of seals (1
otter; one
skeleton
skeleton

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the Steamer "Otter" Capt May to
Quebec & from there to be forwarded to
Agdenburgh & Port Sydney a lot of skulls
of seals (all Harps) some beaver skulls, one
otter; one fox, & one lynx skull. also the
skeleton of the wolverine (as it is) & one
skeleton of the puffing pig (Beluga Citella
I believe, is the scientific name).

I am collecting beetles & other insects &c
when they come in my way, as also small
mammals, birds, moles & such like, & now
that you have mentioned it I will
look out for batrachians. I hope to be
able to show you something in that
line when you ^{come} to the footboat again.

I do not say a word about going
to see you, but will only ~~just~~ say
that I am going to Quebec this fall. &
no further, by saying this I may
perchance stay to consult you - if
you are there - at the time.

The fisheries so far have been almost
a failure, salmon was very plentiful on
the South Shore, but very scarce on the
North side.

Lucas Tscherean was down
this way again a few days ago, & had
a couple of days salmon fishing in
the river. He caught ten fish (sal-
mon) & made a lot of trout. He also

not go any further down.

I forgot to mention just now that I send you that curious little fish which I showed to you, when you were here last. Could you find out the name of it. It was found dead on the beach, some three or four years ago by one of the children here. What you tell me about that Vireo is indeed most extraordinary but is nevertheless a fact. How it can be explained I don't know - but may be as you say due to some gale from the South or South W.

Mr. Comman wishes to be kindly remembered to Mr. Waller & yourself & with best wishes believe me

Yours truly

Thos. A. Comman

My Dear

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Quebec, September 26th/83

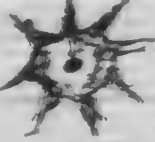

C. H. Merriam Esq. M. D.

Locust Grove Lewis County
New York

My dear Doctor

I have not heard from you, it seems to me, for ever so long. I have no doubt you are very busy on some book or other & have not much time to spare. I heard from the Judge that you had given up the profession entirely, & devoted yourself to the study of Natural History. I sincerely hope you will meet with all the success you desire. Since writing to you in July or August ~~some~~ (I forgot the date now) I have killed a two species of birds not down on the list. Aug 28th Buff breasted Sandpiper (*Taymytes Rufescens*) & one

American Dindie or or bird (*Tamias Alpina var. americana*)

I had some pretty good sport, in the ways of plovers & ducks this season just before leaving. I also killed a few of these puffing peps. (Perhaps *Coturnix* such as I sent you a skeleton of) would you like to get some more of them or their skulls. I have also shot a fine black-bear, of which I saved the head, in case you might need one for the skull. I just shot it the day before I left, or else I would have brought it up to send you. I have here a mole, a Labrador jumping mouse, other kind of mouse, a couple of campiers (caught on mackerel) & one fish of the cuttle fish family, but some what different to what is usually caught on the coast, it is shaped like a bag, has no tail, & the tentacles have a sort of web at their base like this  - side view.  Thus all the above are preserved in alcohol & if you think they are worth sending, or care for them, tell me so.

✓ I will forward them.

I have just arrived from Godbout
✓ I believe will be here till the 9th
of October, the Government are building
a telegraph line on the coast
✓ the line is finished as far as my
place, I have been named operator
there, so that in future if you
want to communicate with me
in that manner you will be
able to do so - I am busy selling
some fish & oil &c. & laying in
stock for winter consumption
I don't think I shall be able
to go, I must prove this year
again, I have to leave this on or
about the 9th, as that is date fixed
for the sailing of the Steamer "Otter"
on her last trip to the North Shore;
for this season, I saw Mr Fraser
the owner yesterday, he mentioned
about your having sent him
\$1.00 for back charges, I enclose
a memo, made by him, to be
sent to you, but which he did

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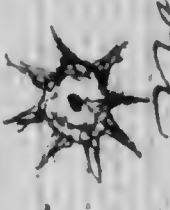
San

not like to send before seeing me about it, as he was not quite
sure whether it was to be paid by you or me. It appears from
what I can learn, that there is some objections on the part of
the authorities to forward things of the description sent to you
skeletons, skins, & such like, & that a certificate from your
consul here is required. I hope to hear from you before
I leave this, you can address same as usual -

43 Buade Street, Quebec. Mr. Comeau wishes to
be kindly remembered. Best respects to Walter &
yourself from

Yours truly
Nap. A. Comeau

Then

American Ducks or on Lake George Algonquin
Antipapas had some pretty good sport, in
the ways of plovers & ducks this season
just before leaving. I also killed a
few of these purring jacks. (Perhaps others
such as I sent you a skeleton of?)
Would you like to get some more of
on their skulls, I have also shot a
fine black bear, of which I saved the
head, in case you might need one for
the skull. I must shut it this
day before I left, or else should
have brought it up to send you. I
have here a small Labrador purring snows
& other kind of mouse, a couple of purring
(except on me) & one fish of
the cuttle fish family, but some
what different to what is usually
sent on the coast, it is shaped
like a bag, has no tail, & the tentacles
have a sort of web at their base -
like this  like this. I thus
All the above are preserved in alcohol
& if you think they are worth send-
ing, or can for them, tell me so

Goldabout 6th Nov /83

C. H. Mearns Esq
Locust Grove Lewis Ct
New York

My Dear Doctor

On my return here I
found two letters from
you, one containing a draft
for thirty dollars & the other
in answer to the one I had
written in Quebec, I beg
to thank you for both and
for your very liberal payment
for the little I had done.

I shall be very glad to try
and get what you asked in
your second letter, I have
already on hand several
skulls, (including that bear skull)
I have also two or three small

birds which I intend to send
you by this present mail, I
have not half much time to
look them up to see what they
were. They were killed by my
little brother here while I was
away. It was indeed a stroke
of good luck your getting the
^{names of} birds I sent just in time to
have them added to the list.

These that I will send to day
won't be so fortunate, I don't
believe a thing like that could
happen twice.

I received by this last
mail two numbers of Forest
and Stream, for which I am
much obliged. I had already
heard something about that
article of yours on the fishing
in Lake Champlain. I have
read both your articles
with much interest.

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After my return from Quebec
I enjoyed some very good
shooting here, "there was an un-
usual abundance of scoters of
both kinds, & I have killed large
quantities of them. They afford
first rate sport if not good
as one could wish for the
table. Besides that I killed
some few plovers & an odd
tripe. I have lately been on
a small excursion back of
this place, trapping, we were
not very successful, & had
plenty of bad weather, rain
& snow more than we wanted
to be comfortable. I got two
beavers and five muskrats and
got sight of a bear in ten
days tramping. Of course there
was some smaller game
such as ducks, partridges,

hares, and now and then a porcupine, but in all these last, there is not much beyond the pot.

The weather for some days past has been dreadfully easterly winds with snow or rain, and I don't know how long it is since I got a glimpse of the sun. It is just the kind of weather to make people sick, if they have such weather as this in some of our cities the Doctors will be kept pretty busy.

I will now wish you good by for awhile, as this is the last mail of the season, the first mail for this coast now (winter service) will leave Quebec on the 15th of Dec. Hoping you will have a pleasant & profitable winter.

I remain yours truly
Wm. Comeau
Kindly remembered

A. A. C.

P. S. As I did not get
your letter in time in Quebec
on account of my absence
I left the little things men-
tioned, mice, insects, &c in my
rooms in Quebec. when I go
up next spring I will forward
them to you, at the same
time as any other thing I may
procure during the winter.

Thanking you once more
for the good order you have
given me, believe me yours

A. A. C.

God about Feb 22nd /84

My Dear Doctor

Death has again struck my family, with a heavy hand. This time it is not a sister, but has robbed me of a father. The telegraph which has been in operation for some time now, brought me the sad tidings on the 19th inst.

He died at Montreal, where he had been residing for the last four or five years. In rummaging among my papers lately I came across some of your letters, one of which I do not remember as having answered. Some remarks and questions &c. asked. It bears date of Sept 12/83 and was received here in my absence.

With regard to the first part of said letter, you gave me some instructions of how to skin seals properly. "especially about the head, you mentioned". Well I have a couple of specimens on hand now which I think would

have the defects mentioned. The skin
and most of skulls sent you had been
preserved by my brother while I was
in Quebec last winter. & as that was
his first trial, I do not blame him
much. The skeleton of the Wolverine
was soaked in water but the toes were
not on when I got that carcass, a part
of the side had been eaten by ano-
ther wolverine, & I believe I mentioned
that to you, but said I would send it
any way. As I thought you might pro-
bably like to have it, as it was.

Second - You wanted to know if both
seal skins had been got in March -
Yes, one is an old Harp, about seven
or eight years ^{old} & I should say, and
the other one year old, not six
weeks as you thought. It is very
strangely marked however, and
the markings most uncommon for
that species. I was not sure myself
if it was really a harp!

I am awfully sorry about that
fish, I sent it to you, but can
not remember now if it was by
mail or how, all I remember is
that I sent it.

I dare
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Will
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I daresay it is nothing new or very strange but I would have been pleased to know what it was.

Will get you the squinell skulls wanted as also everything else that I may think will be of interest to you - in the way of skeleton skulls &c. that I can lay hands on

As regards the amount sent by you for that stuff, all I can say is, that I wish I had always been as well paid for my work. I would be a rich man now - I could afford to go over to Locust Grove and spend a few days with you.

I send you to day the lot of birds already mentioned in one of my letters. I had no time to send them when I wrote last. I think you will find something new in that lot, for this locality. The two largest plover, I think, I can't make out at all. Let me know all about it in your next.

We have had a hard time this winter for cold weather, especially

January, the mean temperature of which was 14° below zero. The snow fall so far is heavy. Immense quantities of Pteranigan (only one species *Lophus Albus*) have been killed this winter on our coast. I had some fine sport with them. The man at Trinity Bay killed over two hundred in one morning shooting. he made a hot shot of fourteen in a single shot. Seal shooting so far has not been a success, owing to the great quantities of ice around here which has prevented the hunters from going out. I have only three on my list, all harps. I was away in the interior for awhile last fall, but had poor luck, no caribou could be found I got a few mink, two foxes ~~rears~~ and three beavers. Any quantity of small game and fish - was to be had however - so that I enjoyed the trip even if it did not pay much.

Mrs Comman is quite well & wishes to be remembered -

With kind regards Believe me

Yours truly

Hap. A. Comman

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Godbout March 14th/84

My dear Doctor

Yours of Jan. 27th received
by our second winter mail
some time ago, and I take
advantage of return of the same
to answer. I am not at all
surprised at not hearing from
^{you} very often because I am
well aware of the quantity
of work you must have on
hand. By this last mail I
wrote to you and sent the
birds mentioned. But in fu-
ture If I send any more I
think I will register these
small parcels. I feel sorry
for my little fish that was
lost. I made arrangements
with one of our Indians here
with regard to some beavers
✓ I think I shall be able

to send you some next spring. I leave to morrow weather permitting for Pouté des Monts to spend a couple of weeks there seal shooting, the result of which shall be made known to you. I will do what I can to remove the oil & fat from the skins as much as possible. I will also take measurements of seals skinned, & label will be attached to each. Seal skin has when quite fresh or salted rather a tendency to shrink instead of stretching as you will find when you come to measure the specimens. I will try and write something about the habits of our seals manner of capture &c. & if you approve of it, you may publish it. I will do so at my leisure & forward to you by our next mail. With

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respect to the "White whale" I can
give you some slight information
some of which is perhaps known to
very few - The white whale is a
resident here, I have seen them
all through the year. They appear
to be most numerous however
in June & July, & are apparently
working their way up the St
Lawrence, but some are seen
all through the summer months
more especially about the entrance
of most of our rivers, more especial-
ly the Saguenay, Bersimis & Mani-
couagan. I have also seen them
abundant here, but as we go
further down the Coast they
seem to get scarcer. In November
December & the early part of
January in some years they
begin to return, moving down
along the coast in large shoals
sometimes several hundred to-
gether. For a short while in
Jan & Feb. only a few are seen,
but this may probably be on ac-

count of the little open water
at that season. After Feb they
get gradually more numerous
and only three or four days ago
after a prevalence of North & North
west winds I saw several large
shoals of them. Their chief food
in winter is the caplin, which is
generally abundant. They also
appear to feed. (I could never
verify the fact as few are killed
in winter) on a small species of
fish, which people here call whale
bait. (I will endeavor to procure
some, & send it to you for iden-
tification) & also on a species
of small reddish colored fish about
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ to an inch long. Of this last there
is myriads to be seen on any
fine calm day, and even at
a good distance they can be
detected by the red color on the
water. (The seals ^{hark} feed very largely
on this last also) - Later on in
April & May the herring is the
principal food of the white
whale. They are said to be

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destructive to Salmon, but I
do not think this has been well
proved. They will no doubt scare
them as they do the cod, but
I don't think they feed on them
to any extent. Their sight is
very keen & they will instan-
tly detect a canoe or boat
at from two to five hundred
yards. I have often tested that
while trying to get a shot
at them, (in which I seldom
succeeded) I would stop
in their vicinity about two
or three hundred yards from
where they last spouted &
a few minutes after I could
hear them whistle under my
canoe, and by leaning cautiously
ly over the side, could see
them swimming under my
canoe trying apparently to
make out what that object
was. They would generally

remain at a depth of four or five fathoms seldom less than that. The least movement is sure to scare them. and disappear like a flash. A very curious thing which I have occasion to see a few times, is their way of sprouting when there is thin ice. They do not make a curve as we see generally, but rise to the surface perpendicularly, breathe, and then drop back as it were in the same hole. I have seen a frampus whale do the same thing once. With regard to their time of mating, & bringing forth their young, I cannot say much. But it would appear to extend over a pretty long period, I have seen the mother with young in winter, along side of her, or sticking to its back (apparently) sometimes. while at same time I once found a dead female in August, who had died shortly after giving birth to its young.

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as I found out by examination
When quite young they are very
dark coloured, which gradually fades
as they get older. I believe that
it must take four or five years
before they get perfectly white.
This is about the most I know
of this cetacean, if there is any
thing further which you would
like to know just ask me and
if I can answer your inquiry with
ease, as so with pleasure. I will
try and study them as much as
possible if opportunity offers -
Very happy to hear of that in-
teresting consignment from the
Cascades range. Let me know
at your leisure what kind of
extinct mammal you think is a new
I have specie? While reading some
in newspapers this winter I came
across the article which I now
enclose. If Mr Chamberlain had
known me at the time he wrote
that article, he might have added
shortly that he knew of two white men
who had eaten skunk. And I

will certainly endorse what you say about their being nice and tender. The first time I tasted it I was out in the woods with some Indians. They prevailed on me to try it, which I did, & though I detected the peculiar odor, but it was all imagination, so I had occasion to prove many times afterwards. We had a most dreadful winter so far, snow storms succeeding each other two or three times a week. It is now much easier for us to get out by the gable windows instead of the doors. I have never seen the like of it as the Irishman says -

There is about eight feet of snow in the woods now, & appearance of more yet. The light house keeper of Point des Monts told me he had seen some crows on the 2nd inst, but I am afraid he was mistaken, they were probably ravens, he does not know much about birds. I have been on the look out ever since but have not seen any - up to

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Aote - Many Thanks for the circular on bird Migration as also for your interesting letter in the "Herald".

The idea of giving the command of an Expedition like that one to a person inexperienced with Arctic life or travel does indeed seem very absurd, I have always wondered why such practical people as the Americans are, should have done so. In my opinion some of these old sealing or whaling Captains would be the proper persons to take command of these Expeditions.

I have seen by some late papers that the "Bear" has been purchased by your Government for the relief next Spring.

I am very much afraid that
they will only find these bones, if
they do find anything -

Wishing you all possible
success & best wishes from
Mrs L. & self remain

Yours Truly

Thos. A. Combs

So about 20th April
184

My Dear Doctor

I have just the time
to write you a few lines.
I arrive from Point des
Monts this instant and
find a boat going to
Matane. I have been toler-
ably successful in
my seal hunting and
have for you on hand
at present five skins of
adult Harp seals, & four
skeletons of the same -
& a few perfect skulls.
Shall I send you the
whole lot, or is it too
much - I intend to ship

this lot to you by the return
trip of the S. S. "Otter" which will
leave Quebec on the 6th May
& will probably pass up here
about the 12th or 15th. If you
do not require the whole
(being of same species) tele-
graph me about it.

I have a list of our bird
migration which I shall
give you later on. Some
birds have been unusual
by early this year here.
Can you tell if the Northern
Shrike generally feeds on
carrion or dead meat?

While dissecting those skull
tons at Pointe I shot
three in one afternoon
feeding on the carcasses

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of dead seals.

I am sorry to be obliged
to say good bye for the
present as this man is pres-
sing me to hurry as he wants
to leave. More in few days.

Best regards from Mrs C-

Yours Very truly
Nap. A. Comenay

Gods about May 17/84

C. H. Merriam Esq. Ph.D.

Locust Grove
Lewis County N. Y.

My Dear Doctor

I expect the S. S. "Otter"
to night & have just finished
packing for you two packages
which I intended to send by this
present trip. I have addressed
them to Port Leyden. The box
contains four skeletons of H.
Seal, (two males & two female)
four bear skulls, a couple of
dear skulls (one intended to
replace an injured one on skele-
ton of female, it is of ^{about} same age
and sex) one skull of Puffin
pig (*Beluga cetodon*) uncleaned
one flying squirrel, one small
owl (*Tengmalmii* DC. I have also
place in a soup can two small
phials, one containing some
worms I found in the nasal
tubes of an old Harp Seal - of
which I sent you the skin

You will find on examining that specimen, that most of its teeth were decayed, which was probably the cause of these worms being found, the seal was still in pretty fair condition.

In the other package I have sent, you will find five seal skins all Harps. I have picked out the best I could out of those I shot, and the least injured. As you are aware I nearly always shoot them, with a rifle, and use an Express which makes some big holes. When hit in the skull, the skin of the head is generally pretty well torn. I might have sent you a few more but for that reason, I enclose measurements of those seals when fresh. I have still on hand some few skulls which are not cleaned yet, & which I intend to send you later on with the beaver skeletons.

The skins which I send have been kept in pickle since they

were to send the dry went by the best I would in full names of the 7th 11th/83. little and I would go you of fly they are some of a few which three you will be mislaid - leave it you are thing of me again too busy and re

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were killed, and I thought best
to send them so, in order to prevent
the drying of the skin and also pre-
vent if possible injury to the hair
by the fat. If that plans answers
best please let me know, and I
would keep them in that manner
in future. Many thanks for the
names of the birds. I have got date
of the Fox sparrow only. which is Oct
11th/83. The others were killed by my
little boy here, while I was in Lubeck
and I would say from that; that date
would be about the end of August.
Do you had made no mention
of flying squirrels in former letter.
They are not common here, and
some years none are seen, other years
a few are to be met with. I send one
which I have had here for two or
three years. If I come across some
will keep them for you. I have
mistake your last letter but I be-
lieve it was about all the questions
you asked. Any way if there is any
thing else will let you hear from
me again soon. I have been
too busy to write much of late
and remember having promised

you some notes about seals. In order
not to disappoint you I enclose some
leaves from one of my note books
written three or four years ago -
hope you may find something
interesting in them. I will gladly
answer any questions about seals
or other things if in my power.
I write to A. Fraser & Co to arrange
for freight &c. for your packages &
told them to send you the acf -
& hope you will get them O.K.

I received a letter from Mr M.
Chamberlain about date of Birds
& will send the list as requested
to him. Will write to him shortly.

I do hope you will manage
to come around this way again
although from what you say have
little hopes of seeing you this season.

We have had a most dreadful
month of May so far. Rain & east
erly winds, cold raw weather
nearly the whole time. Birds are
scarce with the exception of the
scooters which are unusually abun-

dant. With kind regards from
Mr C & self I remain yours truly
Prof. Dr. Leonard

C. F.

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Godbout 18th May 1884

My Dear Doctor

I shot the enclosed bird
this morning while taking a stroll
around the Point here. I am
not sure of it, but have made
it out as Pascicola Oenanthe
is that right. The bird was in
first rate condition, unfortunate-
ly it was very much injured
by the shot, and I could not
make out sex, as those parts
were all cut up. Is the bird
rare in America? Weather today
raining & light west wind. For
the last two weeks gales from
the East. Thermometer only once
at 60°. Mean temperature for
this month so far about 35

Hoping to hear from you
at your leisure

Remaining
Yours truly
Thos. A. Comcan

Godbout May 26th/84

My Dear Doctor

Yours of the 2nd instant did not make as good time as mine. I only received it a couple of days ago - Owing to heavy gale of east wind the S. S. "Oter" did not stop & I could not ship the boxes but expect to do so to night as she is making her trip up to day again. I have notified Mr. Fraser & Co to send you bill of lading &c. I have marked them by Boat via Oxleyburgh to Port Lyden. I took advantage of a boat crossing to the South Shore (Matane) to send you my letters as also that new bird I have been working hard

To get some more new species
for our list but no success so
far since 18th. I was off on a
long tramp this morning up to
St Nicholas, seven miles from
here. The only thing I found worth
mentioning was a nest of the
Bald headed Eagle, containing
two eggs, within a day or two of
being hatched. I got a shot
at the female, but as my gun
was loaded with No 6 shot I
only wounded it and lost it
it was a most handsome bird
for size. By the way has the
Pigeon, or Sharp shinned Hawk -
Accipiter Fuscus been entered
on our list, if not please enter
it with following notes, - one
shot May 2nd /84. - Tolerably com-
-mon. Breeds. - How can eggs
when partly hatched be emptied?

Did you not tell me that
the females of Cristophorus Cris-
tata, never had any crests or

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erests or

Hoods. I saw an Indian from
Point des Monts who positively
asserts that he shot a large female
hood with crest. I have not
seen it of course, but just state
what he says. I wish I could
get away from here for a week
or two about the end of July to
go to Manicouagan Shoals. I think
I would get hold of some
interesting facts in connection
with seals. I have been cherish-
ing this hope for a couple of
years, but have always been
prevented by one thing or an-
other, generally speaking in
June July and part of Augt
I have more work on hand
than I can manage to do com-
fortably.

You are lucky in having
flowers so early, we have not
even a leaf open here yet -
the birches are beginning to show

Some signs of it however &
I hope that in a few days
the leaves will be out.

Hope you enjoyed yourself
at that wedding. wish them
all good luck.

Hoping to hear from you at
your leisure & with kind
regards & best wishes from
Mrs C & self.

Remain
Yours Truly
Nap. A. Comman.

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Godbout June 15th/84

My Dear Doctor

I send you again to
day some small birds
two of which I believe are
new to our list viz Seiurus
Auracappillus, and the other
Lialia arctica, at least I
make it out to be that, I
may be mistaken, I enclose
also what I think is Dendroica
Aestiva ? not new. I sent you
the other day by telegraph the
names of three species not on
our list viz

Melospiza Talustris
" " " Lincolni
Falco Communis -

I sent the names by
message because I thought

you might possibly ^{have} wanted them early - as you had mentioned in your letter to try and get some new species for our list by the "1st of June -" Here is the dates of of these specimens.

Melospiza Palustris	} June 2 nd
" " Lincolnii	
Falco Communis	
Sialia Arctica	June 8 th
Scirus aurocapillus	" 9 th
Sphyrapicus Varius	" 13 th

On looking over our list I found that Picoides Americanus had not been included, for what reason I cannot say, as the bird is tolerably common here, I shot one specimen last fall, Nov 10th /83.

The Yellow bellied Wood pecker seems to be rare here, possibly I may have seen the bird many times some years ago, and never have paid attention to it, but certainly it is the first I have seen for four years past. Since you were here - first time I have never left a bird pass me

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when I had a chance to shoot it
or make certain what it was -

I hope that by this time you
have received your box & half
barrell in good order, let
me know, frankly what ~~if~~ you
think of the lot good or bad
and especially if you find
fault with anything. It is
only by that way, that I shall
be able to correct these faults
in the future.

As it may be interesting
to you I shall send you a copy
of my report on bird migration
&c.

We are just now commen-
cing to catch some salmon
with the fly in the river -
I wish I could send you
one, but I am afraid if
I was to do so, it would
reach you in poor condition
from your day of our exper-
ience.

Hoping to hear

from you shortly & with
kind regards from Mrs
Comeau

I remain

Yours truly
Thos. A. Comeau

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Godbout Aupt 9th
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My Dear Doctor,

I have been a little
behind hand in my corres-
pondence of late & have two
or three letters of yours to
answer to-day. I shall
begin with the seals. Glad
to hear that my Mss. may
turn out useful to you -
Strange about that old
Bood seal, I have no
doubt the fellow lied
to me about it, but he
still maintains that he
could not be mistaken
However I did not see
it myself as I said be-
fore - I cannot remember
the exact date, I saw that

large herd of seals, except
that it was in March. It is
not an uncommon thing to
see here. The general direction
in which these herds move
is towards the east in Jan
& Feb, & after that they gene-
rally move up the Saint Law-
rence. Great herds sometimes
remain in this vicinity from
March to June & July & move
up and down the river.

They often work in towards
the shore in the morning
to feed on the shoals of
herring & caplin, & go out
again about seven or eight
o'clock. When not pursued
or disturbed by hunters
this will be repeated day
after day. The harp is tolerably
common as far up as the
entrance of the Saguenay

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Saguenay
Harp seal
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a good many are killed
annually winter & summer
around Es-coumain a few
miles, (about twenty five) below
Iaprenay - I have myself seen
Harp seals above Hare Is-
land. The Hooded Seal is
not so common, but nearly
every year in May & the ear-
ly part of June some are
killed or seen around
Es-coumain & the further
down Manicouagan Shoals
There is no doubt at all
about their being found
here all through the sum-
mer, as I have frequently
seen & killed them -
(the Harp)
They were very numerous &
this year in June & July
again. I think I shall find

means of escaping for a few days
to go to Mamconajam, I have
hopes of picking up some
interesting facts there.

By your letter of the 20th.
I see that you have received
the specimens, I wish you could
have got these specimens sooner.

They were packed with all pos-
sible care, & had been well

washed, but I suppose the
veg may have been exposed
to the sun or great heat,
& thus caused the brine to
turn. Have made a note

of what directions you give
There are two kinds of beans
here at least that is what
most hunters and Indians
say, but they base
their distinction on a very
slight thing, that is the color
of the tip of the nose. I have
seen both kinds, & could
detect no other difference

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- They are all about equal in size same color of fur, y.c. but one has a red tipped nose, the other entirely black, this last is not common. The skulls I sent were all killed about same time, & I have another on hand at present, killed in Oct. which I shall send you shortly, with some other things.

The porpoise skull (unclean) I sent was killed last year in first week in Sept. Weared in March.

as to the flying squirrel I have had it so long here, that I cannot say exactly at what time but I know it was a winter skin, probably in

Jan or Feb -

Thanks for the very liberal
sum you sent me. I think
it is more than ample &
cannot therefore be, other-
wise than satisfactory.

You will see by the list
I send you that I have
added another bird to the
list, Anorthura troglodytes
which I believe breeds here.

I was fooled by that
bird which I mistook for
the Arctic blue bird, but

Don't be too hard on me

& remember that I am only there

a beginner, very willing

to learn, but rather slow

in his progress, However

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entertain the slightest doubt

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for corrections, or identification. I sent you a warbler a few days ago, for that purpose again, & will be glad to hear what it is

I have been very busy this season, & can hardly spare a few hours a week for collecting or studying. My duties as telegraph operator take up most of ~~the~~ spare moments, left to me formerly.

You shall hear from me again after my return from Manicomapan. If things turn out as I expect I will go there about the end of this month. With kind regards & best wishes from Mr. Comman & myself

I remain

Yours truly

Thos. A. Comman

Goodabout Sept 5th/84

C. Hart Merriam Esq

Locust Grove

Levin County N.Y.

My Dear Doctor

Your favor of the 22nd August just came to hand.

Yes I have been to the Moni
Conagan Shoals, & as we say
sometimes, 'seeing is believing'
& you can take my word for
the occurrence of the Hooded
seal there in summer, because
I saw several there, some six
or seven at least. I took

up my quarters on board
of the light ship there, for three
days, in order to have chance
to see what kinds were likely
to keep around the Shoals.

During that period I saw
three large herds of the Harp
Seal, pass the light ship moving
East

The first herd I saw August 29th contained about five to six hundred old hars. The same day in the evening another smaller herd, & on the 31st another herd of a couple of hundred. The Capt who is a very intelligent man and a sportsman, told me that it was nothing unusual but almost of daily occurrence, that they did not seem to move more in one direction than another, but would ~~go~~ sometimes go up one day & down the other. From the light ship I saw one very large Hood. There was quite a number of the Harbor Seal on the large South Banks visible at low water in the entrance of the Manicouagan River. They crawl up on these banks to sun themselves at about half ebb & remain there when not disturbed till the tide reaches them. But this is not the most interesting part of my trip. I saw there a kind of Seal which is neither Harp, Hood, Harbor or Petrel Seal. I most unfortunately missed a shot at one owing to heavy surf. He was about 80 or 90 yards from me. I got a pretty fair chance to observe him however as

I saw him although although it is about difference Head feet unusually much close to breathe straight seems to principally when Air fashion of water shaped - rare & a hunters & the Horse count of of a horse there they kill one. my effort vigorous about. That certain spilled

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I saw him several times afterwards
although at a longer distance. In size
it is about the same as Hood if any
difference slightly smaller, color of the
Head pretty dark, eyes seemed to be
unusually large, and the nose very
much elongated. When coming up
to breathe it does not raise itself
straight as most other seals but
seems to extend itself on the water
principally the head & nose, &
when diving, does so porpoise
fashion, the head when out
of water seems to be about so
shaped -



They are
rare & are called by the Indian
hunters & others on that Coast
the Horse headed Seal. on ac-
count of the resemblance to that
of a horse. I spent ten days
there trying to get a chance to
kill one, but no success crowned
my efforts, owing principally to very
boisterous weather. I am half crazy
about that seal, & I am almost
certain there will be blood
spilled if we ever meet -

Do not doubt my

willingness to do what I can for you
all my spare moments are devoted
to that now. I have had a very busy
time of it this year, with my nu-
merous & varied occupations, & lately
I have been appointed Fishery Officer
for the District of Saguenay
from Beramie to Trinity Bay, this
will give me some more work
but at same time, will have a chance
to come across some thing, in going
about the coast. I have several
little things for you now, amongst
others one bat, one still born beaver,
& some other little things, I intend
to collect them all shortly & send
them to you by S.S. "Ottawa" about
15th of this month. I have also a
few black Porpoise skulls, Beluga
~~Sturgeon~~ or Communis, or what
ever long name it may be.

I received a letter from my
unknown Supt. Mr Montague Cham-
berlain, thanking me in a very
complimentary manner for my
report on Migration. In my turn
I have to thank you for this, as
it is all due to you.

At the moment of writing
our old friend Indigo Tas-
-cheran

C. H.

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is here. he came down for a few days as usual, but somewhat later. We did a pretty good days fishing yesterday at trout killing about five or six dozen. The Judge wishes to be remembered. He asked me if I had any news from you & I showed him some of your letters, he says that if you always write fresh like that, to your friends that they must have a hard time. He says that some of these bird names are too much for him.

While at Manicomapan light ship I helped the Capt to prepare his report on migration amongst the lot he described as having seen, was a bird which I saw here for the first time this year, that is the Frigate Bird. Tachypetes Aquilus seen here August 13th/84.

The Capt could not give me the date he saw that one but said it was about end of July, probably the same

seen here. About the small mammals I will do what I can to get you some. Those shrews I sent you kept all right, they were pretty far gone when I put them in the bottle. I got them while at Mr. Filmon's camp & they spoiled before I had got here. to place them in alcohol.

I have never hunted them much but I don't believe they are rare I will see shortly.

Amongst other things which I want to send you are a couple of trout, caught in this river, same Pool, both of them. I have always understood from what I read of late about trout, that there is only one species, that is to say no sea trout properly called that Salmo Fontinalis, is the only species, & that river or brook trout, & sea trout, salmon trout are all one & the same fish.

Now I believe there are two kinds & that sea trout are quite different from river or brook trout &

I ^{shall} send a couple (if they can keep)

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to you in order that you may
send them to some one interested
in fishes, Professor Baird or some
one else, as you may think
proper. I may be wrong, but it
cant do much harm any way.

We have had a most extraor-
-dinary migration of the Canada
Jay (Perisoreus Canadensis)

lately, I counted over one
hundred in that open space
near the old Hudson Bay
house here, one afternoon &
almost every day since the
1st of this month it has been
the same. I believe it must
be owing to some scarcity of
berries in the interior, and
as they happen to be plentiful
along the coast shore this
year, they follow it.

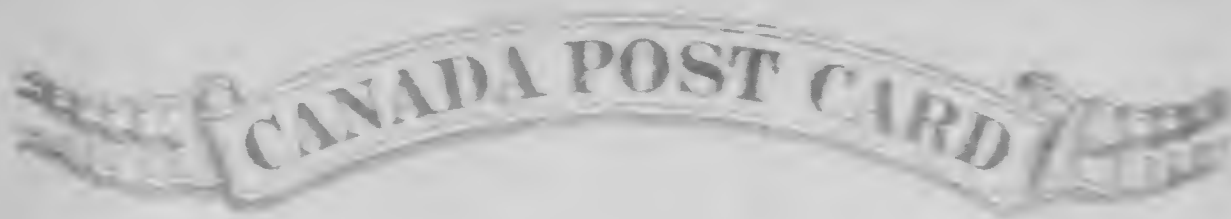
I intend to go to Quebec
sometime about the end of
this month, if possible, should
I go I will let you know
& you might perhaps write

to me there, same old place
43 Bnalle Street.

In meantime accept
kindest regards & best
wishes from Mrs C. & self

Yours truly
Wap. A. Comenay

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THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE

C. Hart Merriam Esq
Locust Grove
Lewis County
New York

Godbow Sept 9th/84 - My Dear Doctor,
I killed yesterday a beautiful Harp seal
of as fine a one as ever I came across,
I have skinned it, for mounting, & will
send it to you with other things mentioned
I have preserved the embryo in alcohol
which will also be forwarded, I hope
you will find this skin good as
I have taken great trouble to skin
it well, & made only ~~one~~ small cut
in it. Hoping to hear from you
soon again I remain
yours truly
Nap. A. Comenau

Goodbont Oct 25th / 84

E. Hart Merriam Esq
Lieut from, N. Y.

My Dear Doctor

Here I am, back again to my old stand, I had a first rate trip coming down and arrived here on the 20th inst. What a change it was too. I found snow on the ground to the depth of four to six inches, not a single leaf on the trees, in fact quite a winter appearance, since then we have had snow, nearly every second day. All the mountains are covered with snow, & not a patch of bare ground visible now. Close to the sea shore it is not quite so bad & we have a little speck of earth visible here & there. I will now talk a little about birds. One of the very first birds I saw ~~was~~ on landing was a Swamp Sparrow

Melospiza Palustris, no mistake about him sure. Since, I have seen & shot about a dozen, they come around the houses here, searching for food on the bare spots of ground around my buildings. ~~also~~, In company with these are quite a lot of Lunco Hyemalis, a few robins & an occasional Canada Jay.

Lots of Eremophila Coriacea, & also Plectrophanes Nivalis. This morning

I was out shooting for a short while & killed a few Golden eye ducks (Islandicus) some Mergansers, a few scoters &c. I also secured a specimen of Todylymbus or Todiceps, I am not quite sure what it is, & have skinned it for you, & will send this fall if I have a chance, & have something else to add, so as to make it worth while sending.

While in Quebec I saw at the Laval University, a bird said to have been shot at Moisie, some time in September last. It is a species of Albatross, I cannot say what kind, as I could not find any description suiting that particular bird in the "Key". I advised

The Curator out a letter to you to send to do so, would red him but he so I let. Here correct measurements wing 15. over. tail, darkish white, on darkish the ear, must be bill black tip, and color a bill so

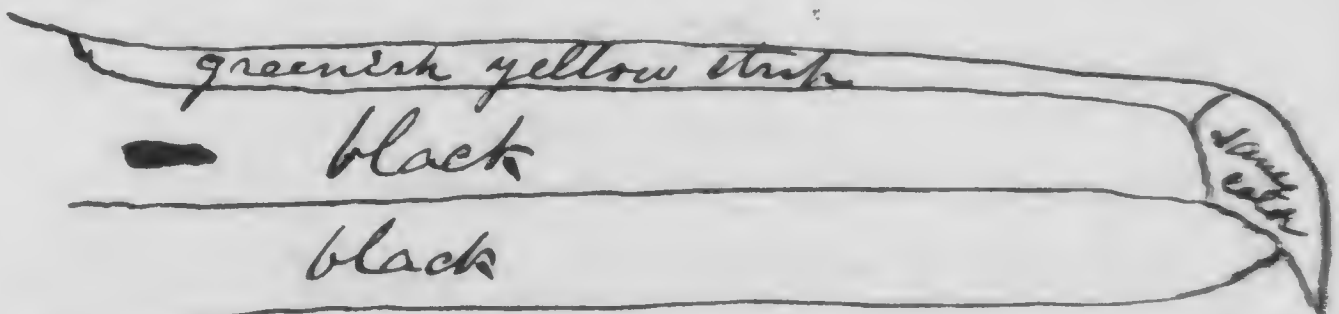
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The Curator Mr. Dinnie, to write
out a description of the bird & send
it to you or Dr. Cooper. (I wanted him
to send the bird but he was too stupid,
to do so, probably thinking the bird
would never be returned) I then offer-
red him to write out the description,
but he would not see that at all.
so I left him "alone in his glory"
Here is a description of it, as far
correct as possible, without ^{actual} measure-
ments. Length about three feet
wing 15 to 18 inches, tail 6, Bill 5 or
over. Color, back, wings, (upper parts)
tail, dark nearly black, ^{shafts of wings & tail feathers whitish} under parts
white, neck pure white, with two
darkish spots near & in front of
the ear, feet pale & when fresh
must have been flesh colored
bill black, with greenish yellow
tip, and narrow strip of same
color all along the top of the
bill so--



The above is about as good a description
as I can give from memory & giving
measurements by guess. I suppose

you will hear more about it later on,
one thing quite sure is that it is an
Albatross & from what Mr. Dineen told
me was shot by some fisherman at
Noisic. I will try & find out all
about it.

I brought down plenty of plaster &
will try my hand at it very soon now,
will let you know if I succeed well.

I sent you from Quebec that Bear
skull I spoke of, as also three or four other
small skulls I had on hand. I hope
you got them alright. When sending
these things I have to fix a certain
value to them or else they will not
accept them at the Express Office.
Do not take that as a price to the
price you ought to pay me, as I shall
always make it more than the article
is worth, in case of loss, as the
Company hold themselves responsible
for the delivery of these goods.

I shall now say good bye for a while
as this is possibly my last chance of
writing before the winter mail comes.

Remember me to Mr & Mrs Merriam &
thank them again for me, for all their
kindness and attention. As to yourself
I cannot sufficiently express my thanks
to you, for all you did for me. I
shall never forget my visit to you &
the pleasant hours spent at Locust
grove. With kind regards from Mrs C & self

I remain yours truly
Nap. A. Leconte

L. Hart
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Goodbont November 7/84

My Dear Doctor

I write you this letter in the hope of finding some opportunity to send it to Quebec or the South Shore somewhere, as all our mail arrangements are over for the season. Yours of 27th Oct was just in time to come by that last mail via Rimouski. I am very much obliged to you for Dr Bean's letter, that settled beyond a doubt I think, a point which I had always maintained, (contrary to the opinions of old fishermen, fish culturists, Naturalists &c). That they were a distinct species.

I will now endeavor to answer all your questions in regard to it. 1st Size. (I have caught in trout nets -

& with the seine S. Aquassa, of six to seven lbs. but that is a little above the average, three to four being the most common. It is to be found from the Saguenay down, all along the north shore, & (from my own personal observation) from Cape Colombyer (near Bersimis) to Mingan. I think it is a Northern fish; that is to say, it prefers such places in the where they can get easy access never to the sea. They were rare at Cape Colombyer, a few ^{were} found in the Mistassini & Beccie rivers (18 & 15 miles above this). more abundant here, (but not common) & tolerably abundant in the Trinity River (15 miles below here) Around Mingan & Riv. River they were as abundant as fresh S. Fontinalis. This present season in a haul of my seine net on which I had some six hundred fish not more than a dozen were S.

-0- The way he for the Later, Dec, than the Out Sept I have greater in the never got for them 15th in a cer tidal but a bail to be

massa, of L. - This scarcity however may in some way be accounted for, as being too early for them (This haul was made July 17th)
is a L. Later, in Sept, Oct, Nov, & sometimes Dec, in bait or fly fishing more than the above average are taken, personal Out of forty nine fish killed at Colomber Sept 6th, seven were L. From what I have been able to observe, the fish's greatest part of their life is spent in places in the sea, or in tidal waters. Have access never killed them in the rivers or at Cape lakes here in winter, although I got plenty others. Have caught 18 & 15 them as late as December 10th or 15th in tidal waters. Know for & tolerably certainly that they spawn in River tidal waters, in the latter of Oct or Nov. They may spawn in perfectly as fresh water, but have not seen them - They mix freely with L. 7. net on which but do not take the fly so readily, a fish bait being preferred. They seem were L. to be liable to some kind of -

Disease. which seems to be epidemic
Twice within the last ten or twelve
years these epidemics have occurred,
when hundreds of these fish were
found dead, apparently in good
condition. I examined several
of them myself but could not
detect any cause for their death.
The last epidemic occurred in
1878, about the 20th of July, that
year I had occasion to go to the
Trinity River, & while there I found
about a hundred of them dead
along the beach & some six or
seven barrells were picked up
by the resident fishermen that
season (A barrell would average about
250 fish). Among all that lot ~~not~~
there were no S. F. I have known
the fish for the last twenty
years. It has always been conside-
red, by the ^{species} net fishermen as a
different, & was called by them
Truite de Mer (English Sea Trout)
S. F. was called Truite Saumonée

My Dear
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seems or Truite de Rivière (English,
Salmon or River Trout). [Four or
five years ago, I mentioned the sub-
ject to W. Couper Naturalist of Mon-
real, who told me that they were
the same, that they owed their dif-
ferent coloration to season, or places
where taken, that on these fish
entering fresh water, ^{they} assumed
the spots of S. F., I was silenced
but not convinced. Last season
having a chance through you, of
getting them identified I did
so, & it turns out that I was
right in my opinion.

You are correct with regard to
the female Harp of June 16/84, there
was no trace of foetus.

All the female Harps & Hoods
taken at Point des Neiges in March
& the early part of April have
an abundance of milk in the
udders. They move in herds on
their first appearance, & come

near the shore during the night or
early morning & are not seen again
till the next day about same
hour or as it sometimes happens
state of the tide. As a rule the
Harps always remain & go in
herds, sometimes they will
scatter to feed but never for
any great length of time. The
young (one year old) are an ex-
ception & generally keep separate
very few, in fact scarcely any
mix with the herds. The largest
number pass Point des Monts in
April & early part of May; as
already stated some are seen
in June & July, moving up
& down feeding voraciously
on the caplin & Herring wherever
found. The Hoods (females) ap-
pear of Point des Monts about
20th March and at Escommain
or L'Anse a la Cane, near Saguenay
about the end of April.

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(males) ap-
to about
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near Saguenay
ril.

Coming down from Quebec this
last time Oct 18 - I saw several seals
Harks off from Island.

Many thanks for your
liberal offer for skins, I shall
do my best to secure you good
specimens. I have now on hand
two minks & some ermines.

I have not had much success
of late at shooting weather
being very bad here also &
storming. We had a storm here
on the 5th such as I have not
seen for years. The sea cut
away about twenty feet or more
in some places, of the sand
beach here. It struck on the
beach with such violence that
all our house was covered with
icicles, like those pictures you
see of houses at Niagara in
winter. A great deal of property
was lost all along the Coast
here, boats buildings &c being car-
ried

away - I myself lost a fine seine
boat. Telegraphic communi-
cation has been interrupted since
then. men are out working on
the line since yesterday morning
so that I hope we will have news
from other points in a day or two

I think we shall have some
more Ptarmigan again this
winter. I saw two on the 2nd
but could not get a shot.

To-day I killed a Hermit Thrush
(*Turdus Pallasi*) is not this pretty late
for the bird. Lots of Linnco's yet.

I enclose the photo of a La-
bradorian -

With kindest regards to
Mr & Mrs Merriam & yourself
I remain

Yours truly
Prof. A. Combe

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about Nov 14th / 84

My Dear Doctor

I send you by a Steamer which has come to a wreck at Trinity Bay a box of wings of Herring for Dr Stejneger. This is a good chance for him. They are all of this present season & have been killed since the 6th. They are unusually abundant this year & have made their appearance earlier than usual.

You will find if you examine them that none are so dark as those he showed us at the meeting but a good many show

The colour fading away
I will collect a lot more
if he wants them, I have
shot about three hundred
so far, since the 8th I send
a couple of hundred to the
Quebec Market to day.

You will please excuse
my hurry, as the Steamer
is just coming in.

With kind regards &
best wishes.

Remain
Yours truly
Wm. A. LeMay

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Comrau, Napoleon Alexandre, 1848 - 1923

1885 - 1886

Godbout Jan 2nd /85

My Dear Doctor

Your letter of the 30th October came to hand last night, two long months on its way - Of course this was owing to our winter mail not leaving Bersimis before the 26th Dec -

With regard to the addenda I have nothing more just now. I may possibly be able to add something in the spring but not before, I think.

2nd I have written to David Bonillane of the Saguenay (the one who had the porpoises there) with regard to the saving of some skulls of the seals found & killed there in winter. I have received no answer yet.

It is too far from here to enable me to ascertain personally, so I thought this was the best thing to do. I got information from a Mr Tetu of the occurrence in considerable numbers of Halicheirus frypus on Anticosti. This gentleman, (who is the foot Telegraph Inspector) says that during some six or seven years residence on Anticosti, he has seen as many as three or four hundred of these seals together at one time. He could give no information as to their breeding season. The summer season was the only time he remembers seeing them. I have prepared & now enclose to you the list of names of birds promised. It is very incomplete, but is as good as I could make from my observations. Many of the smaller birds pass unnoticed by the habitants and that class of people, hence the small num-

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ber of names for the smaller birds.
However I trust it may prove of
some use to your Committee.
I could not send it sooner.

The blank for seal measurements
will be filled and sent as soon
as practicable. I shall have some
good chances of securing you some
specimens of the young harps
as I am going down to Point
des Monts next week (about 9th)
to teach an operator for the
Telegraph Station there. This will
allow me a good deal of spare
time, as I only give four hours
lessons a day. I shall be there
for one month. I have put up
a few skins of Lagopus Albus
have you any in your collection
but I do not remember seeing any?
if not I shall send you some
this spring. How about the
wings do you want any more?
There has been an unusual
abundance of this bird this
year. my personal score so
far is 857. Several thousand

have been killed between Mingan
and this place, I intend to write
something ^{about it} for the Quebec Chro-
nicle, & will send you a copy
if I do so.

The measurement of the seal
you mention No 5 is correct.
I cannot remember why it should
be so but I have it down in
my book. "From tip of nose to
end of tail 6 ft 1 inch, ♀,
& had young some few days
previous to being shot."
"Girth 3-ft 9 inches."

In reading your book on
the "Mammals of the Adirondacks"
I find under the heading of
Castor Fiber Canadensis, page
257, the following sentence. "The
pure Castor so highly prized
by physicians, consists of oblong
follicles, resembling a wrinkled
pear which are firmly attache
d to the os pubis of the
female beaver; The Indians
cut up the little balls of the
males with their tobacco as they
affora no castor" What is

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meant, by Castor, is to the
Castoreum of commerce. I
confess that although I have
killed a tolerably fair number
of beavers in my time, I never
found any difference between
the males or females. Both of
them have two pear shaped oil
glands, and two castoreums.
or as they are called by the
trappers and Indians the dry
glands. (French) Rognons sec.

Although called roggnons (Kid-
neys) it has nothing to do with
the kidneys. During the winter
season the glands of each are
of the same size, but as soon
as the lakes & rivers open, the
males quit their mate & begin
to roam about, on their way
wherever they land they leave
a little of their scent, Castoreum.
This they do by taking hold
of their scent bag with their
fore-paws

& pressing them, after which they will cut a few twigs, turn around three or four times like a dog going to lie down, or sometimes scratch the ground a little, after which they will resume their journey & most likely repeat the operation further on.

This circumstance is taken advantage of by the trappers & Indians, who seek out these places to put their traps.

When no such can be found an artificial place is made by scraping and clearing a small place along a brook river, or lake, & depositing a small quantity of Castoreum. It is one of the most deadly manners of trapping beaver.

The consequence is that after the males have roamed about for a month or so the glands are very much diminished in size, and of little value for

the males rise to the had no at what but, & both of The but he or late are so their of the reduce males - notes perhaps to your person We winter, feet of Colditz zero. I saw of the

the market, which may have given
rise to the idea that the males
had no Castoreum. The period
at which the males quit their mates,
but, & winter quarters is about the
20th of May in this locality.

The females do not leave the
hut before the middle of June
or later, at which ^{time} the young
are sufficiently strong to follow
their dam. In July the Castoreum
of the female is just as much
reduced in size as that of the
males. Hoping the above
notes may be useful to you
perhaps later on, I give them
to you. They are from my own
personal observation.

We have had a pretty severe
winter, lots of snow, four to five
feet on the level now.

Coldest snap so far 33° below
zero.

I saw two fine specimens
of the Labrador gyrfalcon.
this

winter. I got a long flying
shot at one, but greatly to
my sorrow only slightly wound-
-led it, it was blowing a
gale from the east at the
time with snow, & I lost
sight of it quickly - How
I wish I had secured it for
your collection. I often think
how strange it is, that when
you do not want a thing you
are always stumbling against
it. Formerly I killed several
of these fine birds, & never
saved them & now I do want
one I cannot secure it!

I will now wish you a
happy new year, kind regards
& best wishes to all at home
from Mrs C & self & remain

Yours Truly
Nap. A. Comen

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Point des Monts
February 14/85

My Dear Doctor

I received a few days ago the papers on Seals, & S. Aguassa, &c - you were kind enough to send me. Much obliged to you for this. As you have no doubt received my letter of January, you will see by it, that I have been here for a month now - I have been pretty lucky & secured some few good specimens of the young harps (1 & 2 years old) as also three foetus, the last I killed was just a week ago (the 7th), the skin of the foetus is a really handsome one, & extra large. I am sorry

that I cannot give you the weight now, as I have no means of weighing here, by guess I should say 20 lbs

All the specimens I have here are still in the flesh, it is impossible to skin them outside with such weather as we have had lately. I intend to take them all up to Godbout, & take measurements weights, &c & skin them there.

The shooting (for seals) would have been pretty fair this winter if we only had had decent weather, instead of that, it has been very stormy & cold. gales of Easterly winds & snow. To spare - Thermometer between 25° to 43° below zero - on several occasions. I was complaining in my last, of not being able to get a gyrfalcon for you. Since then however I have secured a specimen. Killed by my brother here, the bird was a very fine one, but he cut it pretty bad with shot, & it bled profusely soiling the feathers a good deal. I have made a skin of it, but it is not as fine as I would wish. It is of the variety described by "Cuvier" as ^{var} - Candicans. has

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got white bill & claws. Have also
a No 1 skin of the King Eider. Do you
care for this last?

I have taken three plaster casts
of harp seals so far, & have succee-
ded tolerably well. It is rather difficult
to get the neck right, owing to the
yielding nature of the fat. They are
apt to flatten out on whichever
side you lay them on. The heads
are pretty good. I will take a
cast of a hood or two if possible
in March or April. The bulk
of the seals have passed here
now, & will not return in any
quantity before the end of the
month or March. There ^{are} a few
young (1 year old) & some old
males straggling around yet, but
they are not common. A fair
herd passed here on the 9th, con-
sisting entirely of old harps. There
were about five to six hundred in
the herd. This was the last herd
seen, worth mentioning, this month.

I will now wait here until
such time as weather will suit
to return to Idabou. & will be
back here for my usual shoot-
ing in March. I will at that
time

finish filling up your Table of
measurements. as requested.

I enclose to you an advertise-
ment from "Science" - I would
very much like to get the book
mentioned, would you please
do so for me, & send by mail
at your earliest convenience

Am anxious to hear from
you as I have received no
letter since October 30th.

Hope you are quite well
but I suppose as usual an
fully hard pressed by work.

I will now wish you
good bye till March as
we shall have no mail
before March 25th.

Mrs Comman wishes to be
kindly remembered

Best respects to Mr & Mrs M.

Yours truly
Nap. A. Comman

Re^d 11
Mar 11
not read
My Dear

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Note. We have had the company of a Bald-headed Eagle all through the winter, this is the first time it happens to my knowledge M.O.C.

So about March 17/85

C.H. Merriam Esq
Locust Grove, N.Y.

My Dear Doctor

It seems quite a long while since I have received news from you, (last letter received was dated Oct 30) I can well excuse you, because I suppose you are always so busy that you have little time to spare. One thing I hope, that you were not prevented by illness, you will probably think it very foolish on my part, but I am really anxious to hear from you. Some time ago I dreamed that you had got a bad fall, & that afterwards some burglar had shot at you with a revolver

I am no believer in dreams -
but somehow or other I have not
been able to get the idea out of
my head, that something had
gone wrong with you.

I have made one trip to
Point des Monts since I wrote
you, but had poor luck, I got
four harpseals only. The weather
has been very unfavorable, cold
& high winds, & lots of snow. On
the morning of the 5th ^{inst} I shot a
female harp, out of a herd of
about two hundred; she had
apparently left the ice floes on-
ly a short time before. The
udders were full of milk yet.*
From what I could see I believe
that whole herd ^{consisted} of females -
*I forgot to mention that the
stomach was perfectly empty.

Since the 5th ^{inst} I have had
no chance of going out, I came
up here the day before yesterday
to prepare my mail, as it leaves

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to leave

to morrow, I also intend returning
to Pt des Monts in the morning
weather permitting. I have no doubt
that on this trip I shall see some
hoods, if by chance I should get
hold of a male I will take a cast
of his head. As a rule we only
get females here, but it sometimes
happens that a male is killed.
I have shown the hunters there
the engraving of the head you
published in "Science". They are
of opinion that it must have been
a very old one, as none that
have been killed here had such
a long extension of membrane
beyond the nostrils. However I
suppose they were ^{not} able to judge
well, as they probably did not see
them with the hood inflated,
which would make a great
difference.

Large quantities of the Norwe-
gian haddock Sebastes norvegicus
(I believe) have been found dead,
floating on the water; this winter.
This is a tolerably common
occurrence here, as nearly

every winter about Feb & March
the same thing happens. I have
seen the Indians pick them up by
the barrell. The Indians seem to
be fond of them & eat them whole-
sale, I never cared to try them on
account of their being found dead.
I have examined a lot of them
to try & find out the cause of death,
but could find nothing wrong, with
the exception, that the eyes seemed
to be forced out of their sockets & the
gut or stomach was turned inside
out, the end protruding out of the
mouth, what can cause this I cannot
determine. This fish is about 12 to
15 inches long, of a bright red color
with large head & eyes, & shaped
somewhat like the cod-family.

You never answered me about that
Albatross I mentioned as having
been killed at Mossie River &
which I saw at Laval University.
& gave you a guess description of -
Did you hear anything further about
it? Hoping to hear from you
soon & with kind regards from
Mrs C & self

Yours truly
Wm. A. Leonard

Remember me to Mr & Mrs Merriam,
please.

H. A. C.

Note. We
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C. H.

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Godbout March 18/85

My Dear Doctor

I enclose to
you some manuscript of
mine which I had intended
to send to a Quebec paper
for publication, but which
I have always differed doing
so far. I am not sure
if it is worth publishing.
I therefore send it to you
for examination and if
you think it worth publi-
-shing, as a whole or any
part thereof you are at
liberty to do so, if not, please
return it to me. Do not
be afraid to let me know
your candid opinion
of.

it Hoping to hear from
you shortly, I remain
Yours Truly
Nap. A. Comreau

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My De

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aski" by
A. Fraser & Co
about 10th
leaves I see
the May - calling
I hope to
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one Mrs C -

Truly
or mean
Mrs M -

Godbout April 19th/85

My dear Doctor

I take advantage of
our last winter mail to send
you the measurements of Harp
seals requested, I am just arri-
ved from Point des Monts & have
hastily made out that copy. I
will send you the original by
next mail. I have besides,
weighed a certain number
without measurements & which
I enclose as you may like
to have it. No hooded seals
have been killed yet, although
a few have been seen; I
leave again to morrow morning
for Pt des Monts if fine, for and
then weeks shooting, Wildfowl
are beginning to appear - & duck

Shooting will be good in a few days
now - a few of our earliest spring
migrants have arrived amongst others
I have on my list. First crow March 9th
Eremophila cornutus March 31st & one bird
Melospiza Melodia ♂ (shot) April 13 - same day
P. Laponicus. Branta canadensis & B.
Bernicla, Colymbus Torquatus.

It seems to me that for the horned
lark & sparrow, the date is early - ?

We are still I may say almost in
winter, a few small patches of ground
begin to appear in the most exposed
places only.

It has been decided
again this season, that our mails
shall come via "Pimonski" as for
- merely, so when you write please
address that way - Dates of sailing
same as usual 1st & 15th of each
month from "Pimonski" -

If you cannot write in time
for

first mail via "Rimovski" by
addressing me care of A. Fraser & Co
Quebec, I would get letters about 10th
of May, as their steamer leaves Que-
bec on or about the 5th May - calling
here on its way down. I hope to
hear from you then. With kind
regards & best wishes from Mrs C -
self

Remain

Yours Truly

Chas. A. Cornean

Remember me to Mr & Mrs M.
Please M. A. C.

C. H. Merriam Esq
Circuit Judge
Lewis County
New York

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Goodbont May 18th/85-

C. H. Merriam Esq M. D.

Locust Grove

Lewis County N.Y.

My Dear Doctor

I have just received
your letter written in Germany.
I thought at the time that
there must have been some-
thing extraordinary to prevent
you from writing. Glad
to hear however that you
are well & I suppose by
this time back to your
home. I never got the letter
mentioned by you. At
same time as yours by
this mail I received one
from your father - & feel
much obliged to him for writ-
ing. Please thank him for
me. You will find on

have found quite a lot of
 my scribbling at Locust Grove
 on your return - I remember
 asking a lot of questions about
 one thing or another, & if you
 are hard up for time let them
 slip - I send you this day per
 "S. S. Otter" to Quebec & then
 by X press, two boxes & one bar-
 -rell of specimens. Yc - Yc -

Contents of Box No 1

2 Boxes wings <i>Lagopus Albus</i>	150 prs.
1 Box Skulls, 1 Box Alcoholic Spec	
3 Foetus Seals <i>Pho.</i> frozen	
1 Marten (Market value	\$3.00)
1 Fisher (" " "	5.00
2 Minks (" " "	1.50 each
2 Ermine	<u>\$9.50</u>
8 Skin <i>Lagopus Albus</i>	
1 Gyrfalcon, 1 King Eider ♂	
1 Harlequin Duck ♀	
1 Sharp shinned Hawk	
1 Hell Diver -	
1 Osprey, 1 Woodpecker	
1 Knot, <i>Tringa Canutus</i> ?	
2 small Skeletons	
1 Seal Stomach, inflated	

- No value

1 Box
 1 Box
 12 Seals
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 (Canada)
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ember
about
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thus
one bar -
70 -

150 pro.
holis spec

\$3.00)

5.00

1 50 each

\$9.50

8

No value

1 Boose No 2

Plaster casts, three seal heads

Phoca front - 1 Pair flippers

1 Barrel No 3

12 Seal skins Phoca f - all
size & sexes -

The freight has been paid to
Inches & from there they
will be forwarded by Express
(Canadian Express Co) -

I am pressed for time
to day but will write you
more at length by next
trip of the boat -

With kind regards & best
wishes I remain

Yours very truly
Prof. A. Comen.

Please mail me a couple
more schedules on trip -

A. A. C

Godbout May 23/85

My dear Doctor

I wrote to you in haste by mail of the 18th instand & forgot to give you a list & measurements of the seal skins sent I will now do so. Some of these specimens may not be A. 221 but you will examine them and if you don't find them good, just make proper allowance for them, & give what you think they may be worth. Some of them you will notice, have the skull all smashed to pieces, but I have three here on hand (they were not cleaned when box was sent) which I shall send you in my next batch.

I used to read some years ago, stories of border life & Indian warfare, in which fellows used to shoot varmints in the eyes, I may say that last winter I made some most extraordinary shots, in several instances my bullet entered the eye & twice in the nostrils, I don't mean to brag about this, but just mention this to show you that flukes will happen.

In the list of birds (Migration) you will notice Poocetes framinens, skin of which has been sent in one of the boxes, is that correct? I send to-day another specimen shot on the 2nd, I make it out to be of the genus Helminthophaga[#], but cannot make out species. I have labelled it No 5, let me know what it is.

On the 15th inst we had a most unusual abundance of
#2 Sandraea palmarum hyperborea C.M.

Turdus Migratorius & Scolecophagus Ferrugineus.

They had been tolerably common a day or two previous, but on that morning large flocks made their appearance, moving west coastwise, but apparently coming from the North. Every patch of bare ground was literally covered with them, & still countless numbers continued to arrive, the first commencing taking wing after a short while, on the 16th the same thing was repeated but ceased about 10 o'clock A.M.

Since then they have remained abundant, but have been on the decrease. Early in the morning, the clearing around the house here, fairly swarms with birds of different kinds, principally Robins, Blackbirds, Horned Larks, also. (Anthus, Sparrows, L. Albicollis, & L. Len (extremely abundant) & a few snow buntings Nivalis & Lapponicus, these last disappearing fast.

Sea birds are still scarce, & ducks have not been as numerous as in former years.

Lots of snow in the woods here yet & rivers very high.

Hoping to hear from you soon & with kind regards & best wishes from Mrs C & self believe me

Yours Truly
Wm. A. Leomeau

Numbers & Measurements of Seals, sent
May 18th/85. all Phoca groenlandica.

- No 1 (Mark I) Female, had given birth to young.
♀ 4-5 (S) Date March 5th/85, Weight 205 lbs, 4 to 5 yrs old
Length 6 feet 4 inches, Tip to tail 5 ft 6 1/2 inches
girth at shoulders 3 - 8 1/2
" " 1 foot behind " 3 - 10
In poor condition, locality Point des Monts
- No 2. (Mark II) Female, no young, 3rd year, good condition
♀ 3. Weight 187 lbs, Length tip to tail 5 ft 5 inches
girth shoulders 3 ft 5 inches
" 1 ft behind " 3 " 8 "
March 3/85, Point des Monts
- No 3. (Mark III) Female, killed & skinned on the ice,
♀ 1. (S) No measurements, 1 year old, April 7/85 Pt des M.
- No 4 (Mark III) Female, with young. (Foetus skull No 4) 3rd year
♀ 3 (S) Jan 30th/85, Weight 176 lbs, Pt des Monts
Length tip to tail 5 ft 2 inches
girth shoulders 3 " 3 1/2
" 1 ft behind " 3 " 8
- No 5 (Mark V) Male, 2nd yr, Weight 140 lbs, March 30th/85
♂ 2. (S) Length 5 ft
girth shoulders 3 ft 2 inches
" 1 ft behind " 3 " 4 3/4 " Pt des Mts.
- No 6 (Mark VI) Female 2nd year, Weight 157 lbs March 23rd/85
♀ 2 (S) Length tip to tail 4 ft 9 1/2
girth shoulders 3 " 3
" 1 ft behind " 3 " 8 (Fat)
- No 7 (Mark VII) Female, 1 year, Weight 112 lbs, Feb 3rd/85
♀ 1. Length tip to tail 4 ft 4 inches
girth shoulders 2 " 10 1/2 "
" 1 ft behind " 3 " 1 "
Tolerably fat,

N^o 8 (Mark VIII) Female, 3rd year, Weight 189^{lb}, March 27th/85

♀ 3. Length tip to tail 5 ft 10 inches

firth Shoulders 3 " 8 1/2 "

" 1 ft behind " 3 " 11 "

N^o 9 (Mark VIII) Omitted to note sea, 2nd year, 144 lbs

2.

Point des Monts April 6th/85

Length tip to tail 4 ft 10

firth Shoulders 3 " 3 1/2

" 1 ft behind " 3 " 7

N^o 10 (Mark X) Male, 4 to 5 yrs, Weight 205^{lb}, March 27/85

♂ 4-5 (S.) Length tip to tail 5 ft 11 inches

firth Shoulders 3 " 8

" 1 ft behind " 3 " 11 1/4 (Fat)

N^o 11 (Mark XI) Female, 3rd year, Weight 186^{lb}

♀ 3.

Point des Monts March 23/85

Length tip to tail 5 ft 4 1/2 inches

firth Shoulders 3 " 9 "

" 1 ft behind " 3 " 10 1/2

N^o 12, (Mark XII) Male, 1 year, no measurements

♂ 1 (S.) Skinned on ice floe, April 7th/86

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Goodbont May 31st/85
C. H. Merriam Esq
Locust Grove
Lewis County N. Y.

My dear Doctor

Received yours
of 10th day before yesterday.
Happy to see you back safe.
To Locust Grove. Have written
to you a few days ago & sent
you the King Eider & Tammian
skins, &c. Since then I have
secured another bird new to
list Indroeca castanea which
I enclose. Have been rum-
maging around pretty well
of late, but new names for
the list are scarce.
I managed to get hold of

May 5, 1885.

one of these old fashioned Canadian lamps, made of iron, & for burning train oil, It is hardly credible but the old thing was still in use in a farmers house on the South Shore. & this in the days of the electric light! I have an idea that I mentioned this kind of lamp to you already, & you wished me to secure one. Do you remember this? I wish to know because it might be somebody else who made the request & if so I believe I can lay hands on another one.

"Manual of Telegraphy" was received this mail, same time as your letter, much obliged to you for it.

Glad to know your health is good, which I believe you

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one of these old fashioned Canadian lamps, made of iron, & for burning train oil, It is hardly credible but the old thing was still in use in a farmers house on the South Shore. & this in the days of the Electric light! I have an idea that I mentioned this kind of lamp to you already, & you wished me to secure one. Do you remember this? I wish to know because it might be somebody else who made the request & if so I believe I can lay hands on another one.

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require also, by the way in which
you carry on. You are apparently
decided to kill yourself with
work, I wonder what other char-
ge you will accept next?

I have no idea of what work
you will have to do in that
Dept, but hope it would be
too hard & will pay well,
although from its name it
don't seem to indicate that.

I remarked the extract in
question, on beaver, but as you
had said nothing in contradiction
of this paragraph on the castors
I thought it possible that you
had never had occasion to
examine them personally, some
of the other things said were
so absurd that nobody
would believe that now a
days. Speaking of Books
puts me

in mind of an offer I received
lately from an old acquaintance
in England, He offers to send me
any book or books which might be
useful to me for the study of
Natural History or Ornithology.
Now if you think of any which
might suit me, would feel
obliged if you would give me
the name or names of them. The
old gentleman used to angle on
this river years ago & since he left
I have always corresponded with
him & lately I told him that
I was taking an interest in Ornitho-
logy, hence the offer. This gentleman
is the same who sent me "Chambers
Encyclopedia" I have here -

With kind regards & best
wishes from Mrs C & self

Remain yours truly
Thos. A. Coman

Recd. June 5, 1885.

Go
C. H.
My dear
of 10th
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So About Time Pth 85

My Dear Doctor

I am sending you
to-day by S. P. Otter to
Quebec one box con-
taining one other
skin & the lamp men-
tioned in my last &
a couple of birds for
identification. I have
placed the name on
of what I believe they
are, you will let me
know if I am right.
Have nothing new to
add to the list yet.
I have sent this box
to the Canadian Press

While waiting for the boat
I have just shot a bird
new to the list. Cotyle
Riparia, which I enclose
N. A. L.

at Quebec & requested
them to forward immedi-
ately. I hope it will reach
you in good order. I have
put plenty of alum & arse-
nic (equal parts) in ~~them~~.

I paid \$6 six dollars
for it & might have got
another one, female, for \$7
but it had been shot &
the skull & teeth were all
smashed so did not care
to buy it. The one sent was
trapped. With kind regards
to Mr & Mrs Merriam

Remain

Yours truly

Nap. A. Comenay

For

My Dear

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God about June 14th/85

My Dear Doctor

Have just received
two of your letters May 29th & June 5th
- glad to hear that the boxes & car
- rel reached you allright, but
sorry to hear some of the casts were
broken. If I send any more later
I will pack them differently as
probably saw-dust is too easily dis-
- placed. I took those casts of
flippers to show the difference
between the natural, & the unnatural
- bulging of both fore & hind
flippers I noticed in the stuffed
specimens at the American Mu-
- seum, (I think I made the re-
- mark to you at the time). I had
brought up here, from Pt des Monts,
a fore flipper of that same seal
to take a cast of, but my old



Dog, who is rather fond of flippers
an natural made away with it.

Do you want any more coats of harp
seals? (heads or flippers)

glad to hear that the skins are satis-
factory. I am an awfully poor hand
at stuffing them, & I found when
they dried up that the skins got
out of shape a little, it may
be that the "Excelsior shavings"
is not the proper thing for that
kind of work, I am always afraid
to stuff them too much & choke
the skin.

You have no doubt noticed that
the seal skins in the barrel are
a mixed lot (different age & sex)
they represent about the ordinary
markings noticed on these seals
I have during this last winter
seen & examined a good many
- her & none of them showed the
peculiar marks I saw on the

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on the

skin you had & which you said
was called at Newfoundland a
bedlammer. I am almost positive that
it is not a harp seal at all, but
some other variety. Did you get

that table of measurements &
poor hand weights of harp seal?

Thanks about the names of the dif-
ferent birds I sent you. Was all
at sea about Dendroica Palmarum

& the plover. Don't know how I
happened to forget to give date of
seen. Den. castanea, but suppose I

must have been thinking of some
- thing else at the time. Date is
May 25th, two seen. Latterly have

sent you some more bird skins
to live suppose you have
received them now. I think that

if I had the leisure I might have
added a couple more perhaps, but
I am awfully hard up for time

& am obliged to rob a few moments
now & then to go out with the gun

On the 12th inst I saw a couple of birds which I have not yet noticed here, I was at my ice-house in the bay here & had no gun with me consequently could not bag them. I think they belong to the warbler family. From the plumage I got will try & describe & perhaps you can tell what it was. At a distance of about ten yards the color of the back appeared to be of a plumbeous shade slightly darker on head, a white ring around the eye & extending to the bill so under parts looked white as also the under part of neck & throat, a whitish patch



on wing, apparently enclosed in a dark circle as shown in this fine sketch of mine. could not see any white spots on tail, size of Den Coronada about. It had a very short note. This is about all the clues I can give you.

I have sent you the lamp any way, & whoever asked me for it will probably remember

My D.

Two of
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broken.

I will
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between

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specimen

- seen

- mark

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me about it later on.

Try & send me a couple of additional schedules for Migration.

About that money, Will you pls send it to Quebec for me to the following address

Mr A. Grenier
78 John Street
Upper Town
Quebec

Send any way you like by post Office order, or exchange draft on a bank, I think this last the best; Bank of B. N. A. or Bank of Montreal, whichever you may have dealings with,

Much obliged for your kind information about the books. I will write to my friend & let you know what he may send. As you say I don't like to ask for too many, but I dare say he will send all

you named if they can be had without appearing too much trouble. He is very wealthy & liberal so that he will look less to the cost, than to the trouble it might give him to get them.

Have not forgotten you about beaver, lynx or other things asked & will collect as opportunity may occur.

Have seen a couple of bats lately but could not get a shot. hope to get you a lot very soon now.

Have a couple more shrews on hand and some mice - one a Labrador jumping mouse with about one yard of tail on - (guess).

June 15th This morning on going to light my stove I found a chimney swift, Chaetura Pelasgia, dead on the ashes & about half singed the poor thing must have come down the pipe & draft holes & could not find its way back. This is the first

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appearance of the bird this
year, to-day I saw another one
flying around. Forget if I
have date of Cotyle Biparia
it was June 8th.

With kind regards &
best wishes

I remain

Yours Truly

Prof. A. Corneau

Godbout July 27/85

My Dear Doctor

By this last mail
I received a note from
Mr A. J. French of Quebec
stating that the sum of
one hundred & twenty five
dollars had been received
from you on my account
I beg to thank you for this
very liberal payment of
the little work I have
done for you. Really I
think it was more than
ample. However as the
whole thing is left to
you, I can only say that
if you are willing to arrange

It so, I am satisfied,
but I think you get the
word of the bargain.

Mr. Selmon has just
left here, I will now have
a chance to breathe a little.
Have done nothing in the
way of birds or animals
since with the exception
of shooting a few bats
which to me to be of the
same species I sent you
already. If I can get
a chance to leave here
during August I will
go to Missonapan
again this season, to
try & get the Coliclaemus
grypus, or any thing else
that may turn up.

I intend to be away
for two weeks if possible

& after
go to Dr.
be at
if so
and
want
to know
help
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How
you
What
of mine
if you
interested
as a
the paper
lain
to meet
the
Seton

and after that will probably
go to Quebec. Will you
be at home in September
if so might possibly go
and see you, but don't
want to run after you
to New York if I can
help it, not that I
was sorry mind you,
but on account of time

Hope to hear from
you soon.

What about that paper
of mine on Harniman?
if you do not think it
interesting enough to publish
as a whole, please send
the paper to Mr Chamber
lain & he might find
something useful for
the book which Mr
Seton & himself are

working on now. He
wrote to me July 15th asking
if I could give him some
notes or Plarman or other
birds of this locality

With kind regards to
Mr & Mrs Sherman &
yourself I remain

Yours Truly
Wm. A. Comman

For
My Dear

I received
Mr A. J.
stating
one hundred
dollars
from
I beg to
very
the
done
think
ample
whole
you,
if you

So about 20th August/85

My Dear Doctor

Have just received yours of the 26th July - I see that I shall have to give up all hope of seeing you this year, as the journey is rather a long one, to your new residence -

I did not get your first letter when you left home but it may turn up yet

Am fully sorry to hear that you suffer so much from the heat, while here we have such nice weather would like to see you here myself for a while & am sure it would do

not work
the A.O.M.
are you
careful
informa
as to skin
I am glad
to skin
he had
possibly
I will
& best
an from

Truly
Commanz

you no harm.

I hope you will not work
yourself to death, the A.O.U.
can't afford to lose you
just now, so be careful.
Thanks for the informa-
tion given about cards skin
&c.

Will always be glad
to supply you with skin
or any other thing to be had
around here, when possible.
Just let me know & I will
try & get them.

With kind regards & best
wishes & hoping to hear from
you again shortly.

I remain

Yours truly
Chas. A. Comenay

My

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writes

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& find
from Mr
& remain
truly
meant

Godbout March 15/86

C. H. Merriam Esq
Washington D.C.

My Dear Doctor

I have just returned
from a pleasure trip across
the St Lawrence, details of
which you will find by the
enclosed clipping from a Que-
bec paper. You may proba-
bly have heard of this long
ago but I send it any way.
I would have written to you
in Quebec but I was so infer-
nally bothered by reporters &
others & same time preparing
for our return that I had
really no time to do so.

How have you been all this
long while? my hair has
grown gray (on the top of
my head) since I last
heard

from you! I was almost Bay, &
expecting some orders for man,
more seal skins by this their no
last mail. I am going the time
down to Point des Monts seen be
again shortly for my place -
Spring hunt, & supposing Bay was
you do require, ^{some} I have find out
not written yet, you might deuts the
perhaps telegraph me about them all
how many you might want, late
I noticed

This trip of mine has been invaluable
a great loss of time to me & a few
& I am obliged to work hard along the
to try & make up for it that be
I got back here on the partridge
22nd February all safe & now & the
found. Coming down along I have
the north shore, I was ve- times to
ry much surprised to see my letter
lots of crows at Murray I had re

as almost Bay, & as far down as Escon-
orders for man. This seemed to be
by this their northern limit for
the time as none were
seen below the last mentioned
place - The date seen at Murray
Bay was 9th February; I tried to
find out from some of the resi-
dents there if they had been with
them all winter or had only
recently arrived, but could get
me about no reliable information, some
had never noticed crows there
I noticed plenty of Pinicola
enucleator. & Linarius Borealis
a few snow buntings Nivalis
work hard along the route, apart from
that birds were scarce, an odd
partridge or wood-pecker
now & then; nothing strange.
I have written several
times to you, do you get
my letters? In one of them
I had requested some tele-
graph

down along
I was ve-
near to see
Murray

instruments of you if possible - if you have not already ordered them don't do so now, as I bought some in Quebec this time I ordered let them come & I will always be able to sell them to some of the opers on this line I see by the London "Times" that you have sent a couple of your pets across the "big pond". Hope they will become favorites there.

Give my best respects to Walter if you come across him, & kind regards to you from Mr. Cornean & self & remain

Yours Truly
Nap. A. Cornean

Yours
C. H. P.
Walter
My Dear

from
the St.
which
enclosed
-bec
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ago
I would
in Queb
nally to
others &
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really m
How h
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grown
my head

Ans'd. Oct. 28/86.1

Footbont October 18/86

C. Hart Merriam Esq
Washington D.C.

My Dear Doctor

I sent you from Quebec an albino of the Red throated loon. I addressed it to Port Leyden as usual. I hope it will get there safe. To-day I send you for S. S. Otter one box containing a few specimens in alcohol & some skulls & a pair of one year old beavers.

They are not as well prepared as I could have wished but I got them in as

good shape as possible
after receiving them from
the Indians. Hard work
to get any thing from
them on account of
their superstitions.

No 1 Beaver is a male

" 2 " " female

Date of killing of that
loon Oct 11/86 in Godbout
Bay -

I have had a very
busy season, & had little
time to bestow on shooting.
I have made one addition
to the list, a woodcock
Philohela minor seen July
17/86, very rare here, the first
one I have seen at Godbout.

Ducks seem to be pretty
numerous & I hope to be able
to go out shortly & pay them

my respects.

How are you getting on
at Washington? how did
you manage during the dog
days.

Pretty cold here just
now. Ther. - 15° degrees this A.M.
Had a light fall of snow
a few days ago about
four inches, all gone again.

Will write you a line
by the last trip of the
"Otter" in Nov. meantime
wish you good day &
best regards from Mrs
L.

Remain

Yours Truly
Wm. A. Leonard

Ans

C. O.

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Ans. Dec. 8/86.

Form No. 22.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Godbout Nov 12/ 1886

My Dear Doctor

You cannot imagine how surprised I was to hear of your marriage. I really thought that you had no time to think about such matters. This shows how stupid I was to believe that all your time & thoughts were devoted to Ornithological matters. Something else besides birds eh? Quite natural too, allow me therefore to congratulate you on your happy union, May it be long & happy is the sincere wishes of Mrs Comcan & self.

If the season had not been so far advanced I would have invited you to come around this way on your wedding tour; but too late for this fall, the last mail & boat of the season goes up the North Shore tomorrow morning. However if we are all spared & you should like to come and see us next spring or summer you will be very welcome. & we should be most happy to entertain you & your Mrs - I want

you to think over this well. Its no mere matter of form
but I really mean it. So much for pleasure &

now for business. - If I have any skulls or specimens of some kind for you in the spring shall I send to Port Leyden as usual, or will I address to Washington? if so, to what number, or street, or place.

Send payment for these specimens &c. - to A. Fraser & Co St Peter St Quebec, money order or draft on some Bank as you may think best. I place no value on the alcoholic specimens beyond the cost of bottles & alcohol. The beavers cost me \$3 each & the Otter \$6.50, as for my other things loon & skulls &c & my personal work I leave you to value & whatever price you may fix will be satisfactory.

Are these albinos of the Red throated Diver C. Setentrionalis rare? I was very near getting another one on the 26th October. I chased it for a long while & got one long shot at it & would have finally killed it but for the unlucky sound springing up & I lost sight of it in ^{the} waves.

That & the one skin sent you are all I have ever seen in this locality. Do bats go into winter quarters early? On the 31st October at 5.20 P.M. weather being tolerably mild, I saw a bat (spec?) flying around the house, went for my gun; but it was away before I got back - I send you by mail (the present one) a Malarepe for identification. I am not certain what kind it is. in Coes description of these birds he says feet black, this one had greenish yellow feet & tarsus somewhat shorter I believe than usual.

Have taken note of the different things you request & will try and procure them during

Note. The date of shooting the Thalerope Nov 10th/86

Form No. 22.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada.

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the coming winter. If I am not too busy this winter I intend revising our list of birds of this locality & giving better information as to breeding & so forth. What do you say to this, would it be worth while? I heard that you had published something on the stone chat Saxicola Pe-
anthe, from my notes, in what periodical or paper?

Did you do anything with that article of mine on ptarmigan, & did your friend have any use of the wings of ptarmigan I sent him (I mean Dr Stejneger, or some name like this)?

When you wrote to me in Nov/85 & sent me a notice that I had been elected an Associate Member of the A.O.U. I received at same time a receipt for three dollars from the Treasurer, (which by the way you must think of, when you make out account with me) & I see by the regulations of the Society that this fee is considered as prepayment of the publications of the A.O.U. which I suppose is the "Auk". If I am correct in

this, I should like to receive it. so far it has not been sent to me, or any other publication of the Society, if any have been published. At same ^{time} you might deduct also \$3.00, three dollars for the coming year as my subscription.

I hope all these questions won't bother you too much. I would not have asked so many at once if our mails had been more frequent, but you will have a long time in which to answer, as our next mail will leave Quebec only on the 17th Dec. I enclose a notice in case it might be useful to you -

If you want cold & can advise me how to send it, I can dispose of a surplus here. We had some pretty cold snaps about two weeks ago - all the little lakes frozen & the ground hard as a rock. Very little snow & at present moment all gone along. The coast line

Robins & horned larks still common. Shot a Hermit Thrush (Turdus Pallasi) yesterday & saw a couple of small birds at a distance which looked very much like the swamp sparrow Melospiza Pallasi.

I will now wish you good bye and a happy time & will write to you in January if all well. All communications except by telegraph will be closed till then. Best wishes from Mrs. C to you & lady

Yours Truly
Nap. A. Leonard

Amish Dec. 8/86 & \$20. Sent reg. let.

Nov 13th/86

I think you may as well send me the money here by registered letter, send notes, ones & twos will be handy for me here as we cannot get change easily in this part of the country -

Another thing I have thought of - look over your specimens of ducks & gulls &c and let me know if you want any. I might possibly be able to get one or two good specimens for you during the winter or this spring.

N. A. C.

Two hermit Thrushes seen again to-day. light snow falling.

RECOGNITION OF BRAVERY.—Alexandre and
Isaie Comeau, of Godbout, have received
medals from the Humane Society of France
for their heroic conduct last winter, when at
the risk of their own lives they put off in a
skiff and rescued a party of men in the Gulf.
The medals are now on view in the window
of Mr. Cyr. Duquet, jeweller. *Lucas "Cham"*

D SHIPPING

NOVEMBER 2,

of 1886

Comeau, Napoleon Alexandre, 1848-1923

1887-1921

Government Telegraph Service,
 Department of Public Works,
 Dominion of Canada.

Sollboud Nov 8th 1887

My Dear Doctor

In the box sent to-day for "Otter" there are three skulls & one bottle alcoholic specimens -

I had no tags to put on them but all the smaller mice were caught between 1st to 25th Sept. The large field mouse June 18th/89 Snake August 9th/89. The species of sea worm picked up here in the bay after a storm Oct 16th/89

The harp seal skull a male, about 4 years old killed Point des Monts no correct date, about April /87 - Charges on the box have been prepaid to Quebec. With best wishes

I remain

Yours Truly
 Hap. A. Comeau

Tags you sent received
 H.A.C.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada.

Goebout Jan 17 1887

My Dear Doctor

Your letter & enclosed twenty dollars received a few days ago.

Many thanks for this & very satisfactory indeed. Pity that you are obliged to give up collecting birds, you had a nice collection, still I suppose these things take up a good deal of room & labor to keep in order, which I suppose in your present position you cannot afford. However I suppose that if I come across some rare bird around here, that if I send it to you, you will take or dispose of it for me?

We have had a most dreadful winter, cold & stormy, several days of 35° to 40° below zero. One snow fall of twenty nine inches on 30th & 31st Dec., a good ending of the year. Hunting has been poor

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Godbout January 17th 1893

C. H. Merriam Esqr. M.D.

Washington D. C.

My Dear Doctor

Seems to me
 an age since I heard from you, with
 the exception of the receipt of some of your
 publications of course, for ^{which} please accept
 my best thanks. I fully understand
 you have no time for correspondence
 except on important subjects. I hope all
 this hard work has not impaired your usual
 good health. Some day if you have the time
 I would be pleased to get a word or
 two from you. I saw by one of our
 Canadian papers that you had been appoin-
 ted as one of the Commissioners in Behring
 Sea case. Is this so? if due to any one
 for ability I think they made a good
 choice. Hope Uncle Sam paid you libe-
 rally. I never got any answer to

Recd. & Ansd. Feb. 15/93.

my letter I sent about a year ago last
Sept, when I sent three skins of the
horse head seal. Halichaeus grypus. Two of
these I had shot myself while out ducking
at Manicouagan shoals & having no proper
materials to preserve them & being warm weather
they got slightly damaged. The other I got from
an Indian there. Did you ever get them.
I sent them by Express from Duluth packed
in a half barrel with salt & pickle. Did
the Smithsonian make any use of them?

I was in Chicago twice last summer
on business & had intended going around
by Washington on my way back, but
owing to want of time, to meet sailing
of the steamer. I could not manage it.
May have that pleasure some day if
all goes well. Meantime I wish you
all the success you deserve & with kind
regards from wife & self remain

Yours Truly
Wm. A. Brown

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

ANSWERED
MAY 26 1894
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC
ORNITHOLOGYSodbont Jan 10th 1894

My Dear Doctor

Some time in June last I received your letter enclosing my note on seals. As I was very busy then with fishery affairs I laid them aside for future attention. Unfortunately I have had no time either to answer your letter or add to my notes. I have been laid up in bed nearly two months. The result of an accident of which I still feel the effects although it occurred a good while ago (25th July). I was nearly crushed to death by a heavy barrel while taking off some of my freight from the steamer there, however I have managed to pull through. I feared for a time that I should be lame for life, but now I can walk tolerably well though still very weak about knees. My legs had been badly hurt - I have consequently not been

able to do any² hunting last summer
at Manicouagan & had no chance
to get any Lynx skulls for you -

I have not heard any thing from Mr
True or any one else from the Smith
sonian Institute with regard to my
skins I sent. I wish you would
refresh their memory again, if you
can do so without too much
trouble. Perhaps they think the
seals not worth the price we
arranged at in first place if
so let them give me what
they may consider a fair price
If you remember the price was
to have been fifteen dollars
a piece. I have been fortunate
enough to secure a foetus of
the hooded seal for you, I should
say it is about five or six months
old. The seal was killed here
in Foulmont Bay in Nov. I have
preserved it in alcohol I -

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Form No. 23.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

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- have also some other little things
which I want to send you in
the Spring - I have received your
bulletin 204 on the ground -
squirrels, many thanks for the
same - I hope you enjoyed your
trip to Chicago, had it not been
for that accident I had intended
going also in September - I was
very sorry to have missed seeing
that World's fair - I should be
pleased to hear from you when
ever you may find time to
write. I have given up the hope
of seeing you around here again
but if such a thing should be
- come possible would be awfully
happy to meet you again, you
will find the same old home
of former years & the same welcome

We are having a very severe winter both as regards cold & snow. 30° to 35° below zero on several occasions this winter - A most unusual thing for us here, three earthquakes since Nov, one on the 27th of that month very heavy -

We had a most extraordinary migration of auks this fall, - lasted about a month during which time thousands passed up the St Lawrence. I am writing some notes on it for publication in "Auk".

Wishing you a happy & prosperous year & with kind regards from wife & self remain

Yours Truly

Prof. A. Combs

D^r C. H. Merriam

Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Godbout August 14th 1895

My Dear Doctor

Am sending you to-day by "Canadian Express Co" via Quebec one box of specimens in alcohol & a few old skulls I had on hand.

There are a few things to which I would like to call your particular attention & you might, later on, give me a reply. On a separate page I have numbered these out. I still take an interest in these things but I am sorry to say I cannot give them much attention, my time being limited - Even my favorite sport, shooting, has to be put aside now.

How are you getting on, or at least how are you holding out? I receive from time to time publications from your Department. & I know you

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

must be overworked as usual.
 Would be awfully pleased to meet
 you again, but seems to be small
 chances of that for the present.

I have not seen our old mutual
 friend Judge Taschereau for some
 time, think he has given up sailing
 & fishing. I hear he is not very
 strong in health. You may
 have noticed through the papers, the
 death of my old master Allan
 Gilman of Ottawa. He died
 worth a couple of millions or
 so, most of it going to a nephew
 of his John Mammel. The old gen-
 tleman forgot to mention my name
 in his bequests! Hoping Mr. M-
 & yourself are quite well & with
 kind regards remain

Yours Truly
 Jas. A. Corneau

Ans. Nov. 25/95

Form No. 22.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Godbout Oct 23 1895

My Dear Doctor

I send you again a lot of small mammals in alcohol four small jars, also one skull of the horse head seal Sept 4/95 one skull of black bear May 10th/93
You will find besides this a fisher skull of which I have no exact date beyond being taken here some time in the spring of 1893. probably about April. There are three other skulls of mammals which I found along the banks of the River fall about Aug 17/95. They are probably very old that is to say no one around here remembers anything about their having been buried there. The three skeletons were lying together, along with that of a child, of the latter nothing was left beyond a trace of bones & two small teeth. They are undoubtedly remains of the aborigines here viz the

remains of Montagnais Indians. I hope
they may prove interesting. You will
notice the well preserved teeth. One
of these skeletons appeared to be that
of a very large woman. I got
a letter from your Dept, acknow-
ledging receipt of first box &
return with a memo giving prices
allowed - Many thanks. I hope
you had a good trip & safe re-
turn - With kindest regards
& best wishes, ever

Yours Truly
Prof. A. Combeau

Inclosed also parts of two birds &
skin of one for identification
H.A.C.

Edmonton, P.Q. Canada.

Recd. Oct. 1895.

4th There are a couple of small batrachians taken in June /91 (I have not the exact dates) at the pool on this river, were found under a stone while working. They may possibly be of some common species. -

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Godbout Nov 19th 1895Dr. C. Hart Merriam
Washington D.C.

My Dear Doctor

About six weeks ago an account was sent me to sign in duplicate for the value of the first lot of small mammals & skulls etc. Since then I have heard nothing more as it is quite possible the letter may have gone astray would you please enquire if the cheque has been sent. Have you examined these specimens what about that large shrew?

The second lot sent from ~~London~~ about 1st Nov must be at hand now - nothing new in that lot I believe.

Hoping you are well & kind regards

Yours Truly
Thos. A. Combeau

There are indications of a migration of
the Ptarmigan this year. Several have
been killed at different points on the
Coast. We had a heavy fall of snow
Oct. 24th & many small birds such
as juncos, swamp sparrows & others
of the sparrows flycatchers &c perished,
in some cases snow buntings, probably
the young were found dead.

Latterly weather has been mild
in part N.A.C.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Godbout Dec 24th 1895

My Dear Doctor

Yours of 25th Nov just to hand. Am awfully sorry these skulls got broken in transit, I will try & get some others in the spring as I intend to make a further search in that locality. Would you care about them if I can pick up some? I thought I had something new in that Neosorex sent in first lot.

With a little extra trouble I might have procured quite a lot of the long tailed & long eared mice I sent in the last lot, what are they? Are these the Eutamias? Theromomys celatus must be rare here, as I don't remember your mentioning my ~~name~~ having sent any among all the mice I have sent you since you described it. Neosorex albicinctus I know to be rare as the one which I sent, is only the second one I have seen during the many years I have spent here. I remember finding a dead one a great many years ago, before I took any

interest in these things. I am happy to tell you that I can now devote a little more time to the study of natural history - as since the death of my old master, Allan Milner (last winter) I have given up the salmon fishing business, so far as regards angling. My duties as ~~Overseer~~ keep me travelling a good deal & during these trips I often have a few hours to spare for work of this kind. Have made a note about of thing the specimens before putting in alcohol. In the last case sent, there was a skull of the horse head seal - bid you keep that for your personal collection. I see the Dept do not mention it in the list sent, which I now return signed in duplicate as requested. Will pick up all the skulls possible of the animals wanted - I send you enclosed a list of data of birds sent you. With regard to the publication of a new list please wait & I will send you a corrected list. That is to say notes about some birds which I thought were at first rare but that I have now found out as breeding in this vicinity. I forgot to mention to you in my previous letter the fact of my being nearly sure of having seen a Labrador Duck last August. It was among a flock of Scooters, it was either an albino of the white winged scooter, or a Labrador Duck. I tried to get a shot at it but unfortunately

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Could not get in range, so it remains doubtful as to what it was. I saw it only once. At Caribou Islands (twenty two miles east of fallbank) a man named Pierre Bilodeau killed a vulture in a bear trap. (steel trap). I identified the bird beyond any doubt it was Cathartes aura, he told me he killed it on the 27th August (1894). his trap was baited with a piece of porpoise. The bird was a good deal out of its usual range I believe. It was my intention at the time to have sent a note to the "Auk" about it, but I neglected this & its only on turning up my notes for data that it has been brought to my mind again. You might perhaps record it if you think it sufficiently interesting. It might perhaps be inserted in next list from here with a note on it. Cheque for twenty six dollars ⁵⁷/₁₀₀ pounds of fine not received with your letter yesterday. I enclose receipt to you as they have sent me no directed envelope or address, beyond the name of the Chief of Division of Accounts to whom it goes I presume.

Starvingan have been very abundant & this fact seems to prove what I already mentioned to you in a paper on the bird, viz. that they

migrate at fixed intervals, the greatest abundance occurring about every tenth year. At fallbank alone thirteen hundred were killed in one week. About one third of this number to my own gun. From information supplied me by the telegraph operators, I am sure that fifteen thousand were killed on the Coast here between fallbank & Mingan. The bulk of the migration occurred between the 3rd & 10th inst, the biggest flight of any day the 7th - four hundred & seventeen were killed here that day, which was only a drop in the bucket compared to the quantity that passed - The birds were in fine condition - If my theory holds good next season will be another good year for them - I am afraid you will consider me an awful bore asking so many questions; but was that foetus of the American hare sent in first lot of alcoholics, anything very unusual & what freak of nature would you call it? its the only case of the kind that ever came under my observation. I hope you are quite well as also Mrs Merriam & with kindest regards remain

Yours Truly
Nap. A. Leomeau

P.S.
My family circle has quite enlarged since we met - I have now a fine year old girl & two boys, three & one year old -

N.A.C.

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

My Dear Doctor

Dec 24th P.M. 1895

I forgot to ask you in my letter of this morning whether the exhibition of photos of birds, nests &c. still formed a feature of the meeting of the A.O.U. If so I might send you a lot of negatives I have here. views I have taken while travelling around between Bersimis & Seven Islands. Of course they would require to be enlarged with the aid of a stereopticon, as otherwise views of birds look like mere specks on the plate. I will look over what copies I have & may mail you a few by the present mail. Have you in your collection any specimens of the Ivory gull, gavia alba. if not I might supply you with one as I shot a fine specimen again this winter (Dec 9th) it was very tame. I shot it near my house here. The servant had been clearing a lot of ptarmigan & threw

the debris on the snow a few yards
back of the house, as there was more or less
blood it was very conspicuous on the
white snow & he alighted on them to feed,
where it was seen by my little girl. As
I was out with my gun on the watch
for ptarmigan she called out to me &
scared it off, but it circled round &
came back & I shot it in passing. The
bird is rather rare here as this is only the
fifth or sixth I have killed here, & never
saw many. Will bid you good night
as I have some very important work to
do before going to bed. viz - preparing
a small Xmas tree for the young ones.
So Merry Xmas to you & a happy
new year

Yours Truly

Haf. A. Coomeau

There has also been a very large migration
west of Bernards Murre this year & still
continue in large numbers - as usual they
are accompanied by the Dovekie, Alle, alle

H.A.C.

Lista of birds sent you lately
together with some additional dates on
same species,

Saxicola Aenanthus, last spe sent. ^{Sept 9th/94.}
other previous records. May 17th/84. May 24th/85. ^{June 9th/85} Sept 19th/85.
Nov 9th/86. Sept 30th. Oct 17th. Oct 19th/89. Sept 14th/91. ^{Sept 9th/94.}

I think I have one or two other records besides
the above, which I have not at hand just now.

Lerfalcon - Specimen last sent. Nov 8th/92
other previous records. Jan 27th. Feb 3/84. March 7th/85
Feb 27th/86, two seen together same day. March 9th/86.

Some other records not at hand.

Ok Limosa, haemastrea, two spes ♂ shot by me Sept 17/95.

Ok Aythya, collaris. Sept 23/95 - single bird sex? rare.

Ok Sayornis, saya. Oct 9th/95. single bird ~~sex?~~ very rare.
first seen here. killed along the fallbont river

Wish you could send me if convenient
a copy of the first list published & subsequent
addendas of birds of fallbont.

Prof. A. Corneau
fallbont Dec 24th/95.



THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



D. C. Hart Merriam
Chief of Division of Ornithology
Dept of Agriculture
Washington D.C.
U. S. A.

Postmarks: TORONTO, ONT. JUN 21 1895

Godbout Dec 26/95 My Dear Doctor
Mailed you to-day a lot of photos
mine (9) altogether as specimens of
the subjects s.c. If you think
anything of that nature would
prove interesting, I could send
the negatives for use at the
next meeting of the A.O.U.
What do you think? - Kinest
regards
Hap A. Corneau

Government Telegraph Service,

Department of Public Works,

Dominion of Canada,

Sodbout 29th Sept 1896

C. H. Merriam Esq

Chief of Division

Mammalogy & Ornithology

Washington D. C.

My Dear Doctor

A case containing
a lot of mammals in alcohol
~~as~~ has been sent to your Depart-
-ment. Hope it has been received
in good order. Do you require any
more of them. Kind regards with white
you privacy later

Yours Truly

Prof. A. S. Rehn



CANADA
LETTER CARD

DOUBT
OCT 7
QUE



C. H. Merriam M.D.
Chief of Division of
Mammalogy & Ornithology
Dept of Agriculture
Washington D.C.

Footbont Oct-23/96 -

My dear Doctor

Sending you to day
another small consignment
of small mammals.

I would like you to give
me the name of the mole
contained in the jar
this time. All well

Kind regards, in
haste Yours Truly

H. A. Leomean

Please notify me if
last box received -

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE,
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
DOMINION OF CANADA.

Godbout Oct 31 1890

My Dear Doctor

About a year ago I sent you by Canadian Express Co a box containing some alcoholic specimens & a few skulls. Have these ever been received? There were some specimens of a large shrew of which I should have been pleased to hear about. Could you kindly inquire into this & get me an answer from some of your assistants if you are too busy yourself. I hope you are all well. Kind regards & best wishes to you & our mutual friend A.K. as you used to call him.

Yours Truly
Prof. A. Cornman

Dr C. H. Merriam
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE,
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
DOMINION OF CANADA.

Sadabout Nov 30th - 1899

My Dear Doctor

Sent you on the 17th inst
per S. S. "S'-day" a box containing some
skulls & some specimens in alcohol
Amongst these last I would call
your particular attention to two spe-
cimens of moles, taken this fall
in Nov. They are very light in color
& smaller than any moles I have seen
yet around here, what are they?

Saw by some papers, that you had
returned from your long trip & I hope
it did you good in many ways.
I had some hopes for a time of
being able to get away this winter,
but I had to give up this project
of mine & so no chance of seeing
you for a while yet. I have just-
returned from a trip to East-Pr-
Anticosti in connection with the
Fox Bay settlers case & also about

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE,
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Some foot-Telegraph business - Remember
the present owner of Anticosti wants
to evict all the settlers on the Island
& the Dominion Govt will grant
them lands in the north west. I
think they will be better off later on
by it. Get - Dr A. K. Fisher to write
a few lines if you are too busy
yourself & let me know how you
are & also if anything worth collec-
ting in the specimens I sent.

All well here & kind regards
to you & Dr A. K. I was very glad
to get his two letters this sum-
mer. Am again

Yours Truly
Prof. A. Corns

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE,

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Godbout April 20th 1901

My Dear Doctor

Have neglected to write you for a long while, First of all to thank you ever so much for your very interesting book "The Dawn of the World". Having been amongst Indians myself most of my life, & heard some of their weird stories & beliefs it makes it doubly interesting. I trust it has had a good sale, though I don't suppose money making was the object when you wrote it, I have had fair encouragement with mine, but have not made much on it yet. The cost of printing in Quebec was considerably more than if I had gone to the States, anyway I am told that little or nothing is ever made on first editions, owing to first costs being higher & a considerable number have to be given away for reviews &c. Recently I have had an edition published in England on which I get a royalty, every little helps. If you have the chance please say a good word of it to your friends, especially the wealthy ones, they are generally the ones who take most interest in sporting matters & natural history. I was very glad when I heard that Mrs Harriman had prevailed on you to leave the Biological Dept, to devote all your time

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to natural history, your favorite study. I have still on hand here a lot of mice & shrews & some other things in alcohol & formaline. Would you in your present position want any thing of that kind or should I send them to the "Smithsonian Institute". I am anxious to know where you are located now, because if in New York city I might have a chance to drop on you, as I may happen to be around there on business. I trust you and family are quite well. Here mine in excellent health, three of my boys at college in New Brunswick where they will have a chance to learn & speak english, not much of that around here as you may remember. Last fall & for the best part of the winter we had an extraordinary migration of foxes, coming from the interior towards the Coast line, hundreds, I might say thousands were caught & many of them beautiful dark & silver foxes. In our little place here 243 were taken, about 1 in 30 being of the dark variety. Some of the lucky ones made from three to seven thousand dollars. I trapped 15 for my share being the top score here for numbers, but all of the red variety, such is luck. My neighbour trapped four & got two silvers worth about a thousand dollars for the two. & so on. Hope to hear from you giving your address, meantime kindest regards to you all.

Sincerely Yours
Nap. A. Comeau

Godbout Dec 26th/11

My Dear Doctor

Your letter of Nov 23rd just reached me yesterday. it was as good as a Christmas box to me. I was so pleased to hear from you - especially to know you were well & hearty. California has many attractions & a fine climate, so no wonder your having a summer home there. I did not know exactly on what you were working, though I knew it was in connection with Birds or Mammals. If there was any information that I could supply with regard to habits, food or other matters pertaining to our Mammals around here, I will gladly do so if you tell me what is wanted. That Fox migration of last year was a most extraordinary one & their disappearance was as sudden as they came. This present season there are very few about. For some years past there

had been rather a scarcity of foxes & how they came all at once in such numbers is surprising. Of course this occurs more or less with other mammals, I have seen big migrations of lynx, marten, fishers, squirrels & chasms &c, but some times there may be a sudden abundance of birds or animals, not due to migrating but to better conditions. This year we have a great abundance of musk rats & ruffed grouse - now I believe this is due to the very large number of foxes that were taken last year, these thousands of foxes must ^{have} devoured an awful quantity of birds & small rodents; ruffed grouse nesting on the ground, must be an easy prey. Its too late now to send you these specimens, but I will do so on the opening of navigation.

My book has had a pretty fair sale, the fourth edition is nearly sold out - now two of these were sold in England, by J. Werner Laurie, the Publisher in London. I don't get much on these, only 15 cents per volume, but of course that gives

me no trouble or expense, I won't make a fortune with it, but really I had more success than I expected! Very likely there will be a small demand for a year or two yet. I got out a lot of circulars last fall & I notice it increased the sales. I mailed some to all the Sports men's Clubs I knew of in Canada & a few in the States. I enclose a copy. You will find an extract from your letter.

Many thanks for your kind invitation - you may be sure that I would not pass without calling if ever I stray that way & trust to you to do the same if you wander this way. It's just the same old door of the past - no lock on it. It's too late to wish you a Merry Christmas, but wish you & yours a Happy New Year & many of them. Au revoir

Sincerely Yours
Nap. A. Comeau

Ans'd. Feb. 14, 1912

Godbout March 8/13

My Dear Doctor

How goes it with you this year, all well I hope. Have been thinking of writing to you for some time past with regard to ^{an} extraordinary abundance of muskrats. It cannot be I am pretty sure, what one might call a migration, such as we apply to animals that can travel long distances in a short time, such as foxes, or lynx & so on. The muskrat is a slow animal & slow feeder in fact about one third of his time is taken up for this. I was thinking that perhaps it was due to an upsetting of the balance of nature, caused by the destruction of its enemies. Three years ago thousands of foxes were killed by trappers, on this Coast. They were as abundant as hares in ordinary years. Towards the spring when the snow got hard they left the Coast-line & retired inland, since then I have only seen a couple. While that migration was going on, the tract they went over was swept clean of nearly all kinds of small game, such as hares, squirrels, partridges, muskrats & so on. I have been told by trappers &

others that the predatory birds & animals were in a starving condition that winter I believe this was quite true, because I killed some foxes that winter that had only skin & bones, regular skeletons. I found several horned owls, apparently starved to death. The few muskrats that chanced to escape that year (1910) probably were not molested much in their breeding & last years 1911 & 1912 kept on increasing, with the result that there were thousands last fall. They were in all sorts of out of the way places around the buildings, on the beaches &c. Dogs & children killed them, some perished along the sea coast probably killed by heavy seas. Many trappers got from fifty to one hundred & more in a single night. I saw places where the grass was cut all round, clean, as if with a lawn mower, & deep paths worn down in the sod. One old man told me (which I believe is true) that he killed fourteen in his well, it was shallow & almost level with the ground & they would drop in it, looking for water very likely. Partridges & hares have also considerably increased but not in proportion to the rats. I am expecting that a big migration of lynx will follow this soon. I was also much surprised early in Feb.

to find under our wood pile, a nest of those large, field mice, with two young in it. The nest was constructed of grass & fibres & lined with feathers & fur, apparently hare fur. I had no idea that these small mammals bred in mid winter like that. I kept the specimens & trapped the old ones also.

It has been an awfully hard winter on this North Shore, a great deal of snow & high winds in Dec & January & the Feb very cold & still keeping so. The fur hunt is poor. To date. The spring one may be better.

All well around here in my family & wish you the same. I sometimes wonder if we shall ever meet again, I cherish that hope. Kindest regards

Sincerely yours
Nap. A. Comeau



Ackd. July 2, 1914

HALIFAX HOTEL



E. L. MACDONALD.
MANAGER.

Halifax, Can. June 27th 1914

My Dear Doctor

Your card announcing the marriage of your daughter was duly received at Godbout. I happened to be away at the time & the time & the answer was deferred till now. How quickly time passes. It seems to me it was not long ago that you were at Godbout a bachelor & to think that you & I have now grown up daughters married, we must be getting old! It does not look as if I felt the weight of years too much yet, as I am off on a long exploring trip to Hudson's Bay. I intend leaving from here on the 2nd of July, & will probably return end of October. I am going there with the view of exploring all the S. Eastern portion of the Bay from the Big Whale River to the Straits or as much of it as time & weather will allow. The trip out will be made in a large schooner with auxiliary engine in her, & strengthened for ice work, but around the Bay about 900 miles will be by canoe, am taking two half breed Indians from Godbout as canoe men. My object is to find out all I can about fish & fisheries mammals & birds & so on & make a small collection at same time. Specimens of



HALIFAX HOTEL



E. L. MACDONALD.
MANAGER.

Halifax, Can. 19.
Natural History of all kinds met with will be collected. I have now shot about all kinds of North American Mammals except polar bear & musk ox. I think this time Maritimus may get in my bag if I have the least luck. I hope to pick up some curios to send as a wedding souvenir to Miss Dorothy (now M^{rs}). I am going to pay special attention to small mammals & will send you what I can of them. Quite possible if I am spared I will write something next winter on the trip.

How are you & what are you busy on just now. Are you going to your California home for the summer.

All my family well & hearty. I have some men at home now, & at my daughters place they call me grand-papa! You have not quite reached that yet. Well good bye my old friend & I hope that some day we may meet again. Kindest wishes to you all

Sincerely yours
Nap. A. Comen

Letters addressed to Port-Helson Hudson Bay if sent before August 1st may reach me

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE,

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DOMINION OF CANADA.

Feb. 24, 1921
Form No. 22

Godbout January 26 1921

My Dear Doctor

Quite a long, very long time since I have written you. How have you been & how are you now. I presume you, like all of us have felt the effects of this last war. I had two of my boys enlisted but only one saw service the other one died here of that so called "Spanish Influenza". Some time later my wife followed him but not from influenza. She succumbed to an operation for cancer. So you can see I have had my share. Hope you did not suffer any loss in your family. In the Province of Quebec there are few families who escaped this. In a few cases whole

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families were wiped out.

Have you been working at Washington¹⁹⁰ or been out on explorations again? I have a lot of small mammal mice &c & some other things put up in bottles. I intend shipping you these things in the spring. They are no use to me here anyway & might be of interest to your Division. I have been devoting a great deal of my time recent years to the improvement of rivers & restocking with salmon. Building fishways over falls & removing obstructions &c. are glad to say, have been very successful. Next season if all goes well I may tackle the Matane river on the South Shore.

I still take an interest in birds & keep an eye open when I am out. Have been on the watch these last years, for passenger

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pigeons, but like many others have failed to see a single one. Gadabout was the last place where seen in this Prov. I often get reports of some thought & specimens brought me all Zenaidura!

There is a bitter feeling in this County against the "Migratory Birds Act." in some clauses, I really side with them - as I consider some are stupid. Notably the clauses referring to the protection of a lot of fish eating birds, Our Fisheries Dept. spends each year thousands of dollars towards protecting & hatching fish, & they just turn without any thought & go & protect their worst enemies, such as loons, mergansers, cormorants &c on. Another stupidity is. they have a five year close season for the "Eider" Quite right, because the

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DOMINION OF CANADA.

Eider was decreasing very quickly, (but not by shooting) what do they do, but-go & protect- for ten years its deadliest-enemy. the black backed gull - a regular pirate. I have seen them often on the Labrador Coast- clean up a whole covey of young eider in about-two minutes! Swallowing the young birds whole! it-is also a nest-robbler & fish eater as well. There was some investigation about Cormorants in the County of Gaspe & they were reported as harmless, they may be that in some places, but it-does not agree with my personal experience as I have killed some stuffed gull of young trout & salmon. Probable reason was that these fish were an easier or more abundant prey. In localities where herring are abundant that seems to be their chief food. I asked one of these gentlemen what was the reason for this indiscriminate protection of birds of no economic value. his reply

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was "he did not know", but probably because birds were pretty to see &c. Sentimental; I called it 90 misplaced sentiment. There are certain seasons of the year winter & spring, early; when fresh meat is next to impossible to get; at these times fishermen used to shoot, gulls, auks, mures, old squaws, loons &c for food, being preferable to salt fish, but not for sale (as nobody would ~~want~~ buy them). all of these "non game birds" & 10 years protection! This is what makes these people so bitter against it.

Automatic guns & those larger than 10 bore prohibited. The game bag is limited, say 20 ducks in one day. Now what is the difference if these 20 birds are killed in five minutes or in five hours with a cannon or a pea shooter. So long as he does not exceed his bag. which he would not do if a real sportsman. I do not use myself an automatic gun but I consider it about the most humane gun that can be used, because many a crippled bird can be saved by its use, many a time I have lost

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birds by not having another shot to hand.

You have been a great bird lover & observer yourself. You know that some species of birds may be & are perfectly harmless, in one section & may be noxious in another, now what do you think of this. I have given you these details as there is a movement on foot in the County to have some of these classes repealed. Well will say good luck to you & kindest regards & if you have a few moments spare time let me hear from you & of your family.

Sincerely Yours
Haf. A. Comeau

The migrations & habits of the willow grouse (*Lagopus Albus*)

According to Dr. Leconte, in his "Key to North American birds" we have in British America, three well recognized species of the willow grouse or ptarmigan, viz: The willow grouse (*Lagopus Albus*) the rock ptarmigan (*Lagopus Ruypestris*) and the white tailed ptarmigan (*Lagopus Lencurus*). The last named species I have never seen on the Labrador coast.

The rock ptarmigan sometimes occur in tolerable numbers, but never stray very far south, at least not on the coast line. I have never seen or shot them further south than Mingan, latitude $50^{\circ}20'$. They do not appear to migrate so much as the next species of this family (*L. Albus*)

These are by far the most abundant along the shores of the Gulf & River St. Lawrence. They are very irregular in their migrations some years being extremely abundant, while in other years not a single ^{one} will be seen. Since I have gathered data on the subject I find that about every tenth year, they appear in greatest numbers. During the winter of 1863 & 64 they were very numerous, gradually diminishing in numbers every season till in 1867 only a few were seen. Then for three years they disappeared entirely. In the winter of /71 a few were killed and in the two following years they were again abundant. The next winter less so, till and total disappearance again in 1876. From that time until 1882 not one was seen, but in the early part of 1883 a few were shot. In 1884 great numbers and this present year excessively abundant. It may be that this occurrence ~~is~~ at regular periods is purely accidental but I think it worth noting. The earliest date I have of their appearance along the sea-shore here (Godbout) is the 29th October /72. As a rule they arrive the first week in Nov. if in years in which they are to be abundant. If rare about mid winter - A few scattered birds are seen at first, generally males, then small flocks, arrive and a few days later the bulk arrive. They follow the north shore as far as the Saguenay seeming to take advantage of that natural highway to regain the interior. A few are shot above the Saguenay but these can only be considered as stray birds. This winter some were killed at Murray Bay. When very abundant this migration lasts from four to six weeks, during that period they seem to be actuated by no other motive than that

2

of moving up as fast as possible, hardly taking time to feed. They are then in very poor condition. As the numbers decrease they settle down as it were, often remaining in the same place for days, where food is abundant, ~~and~~ It is very difficult to explain or find out the cause of these migrations with certainty. I am inclined to believe that it is owing to heavy rains & sleet during the fall, in the interior. The heavy sleet covering the low willow bushes with a thick coating of ice, thus preventing them from getting a sufficient supply of food, & forcing them to migrate further south. In the fall of 1863 while out hunting at the head waters of the Manicouagan river, I had occasion to note the effects above stated. All through the months of October & part of November, ptarmigan were very abundant, in the immense willow patches to be found along that river. About the middle of November a change took place in the weather and we had a couple of days of cold rain & sleet, so much that the trees & branches of all descriptions were actually bent down by the weight of their icy covering. Immediately after this the ptarmigan suddenly disappeared & three or four days after not a single bird could be found. On my return home in the ensuing spring, I learnt that about the same date of their disappearance inland, they had been abundant along the coast line.

I have never heard of any being found breeding near the coast, although there is not the slightest doubt that a good many breed not very far inland, especially after large migrations, when a good many stragglers must be left behind. I have ~~seen~~ ^{found} them here often, late in April, & as they probably breed in May, ~~that~~ it is likely these birds would have bred in the vicinity. Last season ¹⁸⁶⁴ I saw a couple on the 6th May but unfortunately had not my gun on hand, as I would have wished to secure them, they appeared to be in full summer plumage.

They breed in considerable numbers about the Oulets Mountains, some two hundred miles north of this place, (this I learnt from Indians) but, I am told that it is not a regular thing. This ^{winter} ~~year~~ I have collected all the information possible as to the numbers killed within a certain limit, from Mingan to Bersimis & find that something over twenty thousand have been shot by the Indians & residents, for local consumption this season.

The best time for shooting them is early in the morning. At the faintest appearance of dawn they begin their flight and this lasts till about sunrise, when, if not disturbed, they begin to feed. Their food consists chiefly of the buds of different kinds of willows, but they will feed also on the birch poplars, mountain ash, or other leaf bearing trees. They also feed on berries when accessible. They generally fly in flocks of from ten to twenty, but have often seen them in greater numbers up to three or four hundred. On one occasion at Trinity Bay on the 15th November last, I saw one flock which at the lowest estimate contained a couple of thousand birds. This I consider as something very unusual. When in large flocks they are as a rule very shy. Unlike the ruffed grouse

They are capable of very long flights. When flying over water as they often do, from the extremity of one point to the other as in crossing deep bays and rivers, I have seen them go more than six or seven miles without a rest. They fly very close to the surface of the water, just a foot or so above it and nearly all parallel to each other. When flying over timbered land they fly high over the tops of the tallest trees.

In very cold weather they are very difficult to approach, but in snowy or mild weather, they are excessively tame and almost require to be kicked before taking wing. Sometimes I have actually been unable to make them rise, as they would run in among the willows rather than take flight. The popular idea of their diving in the snow to escape pursuit, is most ridiculous, I have seen, shot, and pursued, thousands of them & never saw such a thing. Like the ruffed grouse, they do occasionally burrow in the snow at night, but only during high winds or extremely cold weather. Their usual mode of resting at night or in day time, being only to scrape a small hollow like a nest, leaving the head and back exposed. During the day they will seek the highest accessible points, preferring the tops of barren and rocky mountains, but at nightfall will generally seek the low banks & willow patches along the edge of some river. A rather strange thing with regard to these birds, which I have only investigated this winter, is the disproportion of the sexes, I killed myself over eight hundred & had opportunities of examining one thousand more besides, and found that only twenty five per cent were males. ~~But~~ I also weighed a large number, the average weight was nineteen ounces, the heaviest bird, twenty seven ounces. The males weigh about two ounces more than the females. These birds are also remarkable for their seasonal change of plumage, and a very interesting paper on this subject, by was read, by Dr Stejneger at the last meeting of the A. O. U. From the quantity of material placed at my disposal this winter, I am inclined to believe that what the Doctor considered as a geographical race, or ~~island~~ ^{island} species (the birds shown coming from Newfoundland) based on the coloration of the primaries, was nothing more than a seasonal change. The specimens exhibited, (two in number), had nearly all the tips of the primaries, black, along the shafts, black. This I found was the case, although not quite to the same extent, on most birds killed early last fall from Nov 1st to 15th but as the season advanced they unmistakably showed a gradual whitening of the feathers. All the birds killed in the latter part of Dec up to date February 2nd had no such markings, the primaries, except part of the shafts being pure white. In some birds the whole shaft is black, while in others, only an inch or two of the middle of it, is so.

Footbont
Feb 2/85 R. A. Comeau.

Weights of Harp Seals (Phoca groenlandica)
From Fort Alsworth, by Kap. A. Combe.

Age	Approximate	Sex	Month	Weight in lbs	Locality	Remarks
1	year old	♂	January	102	St. Michaels	Fair condition
1	"	♀	"	86	"	"
1	"	♀	"	117	"	"
1	"	♀	"	83	"	The smallest killed
1	"	♂	"	118	"	Fair condition
1	"	♀	"	85	"	"
1	"	♀	"	92	"	"
1	"	♀	February	120	"	Fat
1	"	♂	"	96	"	Fair con -
3	"	♂	"	164	"	"
2	"	♀	March	159	"	Fat
3	"	♀	"	184	"	No young - fat.
2	"	♀	"	154	"	Fat
2	"	♀	"	154	"	"
1	"	♂	"	106	"	"
3	"	♂	"	177	"	Very fat.
3	"	♂	"	165	"	"
3	"	♀	April	225	"	Had young
4	Seals of 1 yr	♀ ♀ ♀	"	108, 120, 95, 117	"	Fair condition

Narwhal (*Monodon monoceros*)

No.	Locality.	Date	Sex & Age.	Tip of nose to:					Distance between bases of fore flippers	Tip of fore flipper	Birth		Length of tail	Weight.	Remarks.
				3	5	7	9	11			at fore flipper	1 foot behind fore flipper			
1	Godbout	Jan 7/85	♀ 4 yrs	3 inches	5 5/8 in	7 inches	5 ft 7 in	6 ft 2 1/2 in.	1 ft 8 in	3 ft 1 in	3 ft 8 in	3 ft 7 1/2 in	4 in	212 lbs	Female without young, not in very good condition, as regards fat. Plaster cast M.C.
2	Point des Monts	" 9 -	♂ 1 -	2 3/4	5 1/8	6 1/2	4 - 2 1/2	4 - 10	1 - -	-	3 - 1 1/2	3 - 1 1/2	2 1/2	109	Fair conditions
3	"	" 9 -	♀ 2 -	3 -	5 1/4	7 1/2	4 - 8	5 - 5	1 - 1	-	3 - 3 3/4	3 - 5 1/2	4 1/4	149	" "
4	"	" 9 -	♀ 1 -	2 3/4	5	6 1/2	4 - 3	4 - 10	1 1/2	-	3 - 1 1/2	3 - 4	3 -	94	" "
5	Godbout	" 9	♀ 4 to 5	3 1/4	6 1/4	7 1/2	5 - 5	6 - 1	1 - 3	-	3 - 7	4 - 1	4 1/4	232	With young very fat
6	Point des Monts	" 14	♂ 4	3 1/4	6	7 1/2	4 - 11	5 - 8	1 - 1 1/2	-	3 - 7 1/2	3 - 9	3 1/2	185	Fair condition
7	"	" 17	♀ 2 to 3	2 3/4	5 5/8	7 1/4	5 -	5 - 7 1/2	1 - 1	-	3 - 3 1/2	3 - 8	3 1/2	159	Tolerably fat
8	"	"	♂ 1 -	2 3/4	5 -	6 1/2	4 - 3	4 - 10	10 1/2	-	2 - 7 3/4	2 - 11	2 1/2	96	Fair -
9	"	" 30	♂ 1 -	3 -	5 1/4	7 -	4 - 5	5 - 1	11	-	3 - 1	3 - 4 1/2	3 1/2	128	Fat
10	"	"	♂ 1 -	3 -	5 5/8	6 3/4	4 - 6	5 - 1	1 - -	-	3 - 2	3 - 7	3	139	"
11	"	"	♂ 1 -	3 -	5 3/4	7	4 - 8	5 - 3	11	-	3 - 0	3 - 3	3	127	"
12	"	"	♂ 1 -	3 -	5 1/4	7	4 - 2	4 - 8	10 1/2	-	2 - 10	3 - 1/2	3 1/2	96	Fair condition
13	"	"	♀ 1 -	2 3/4	5 1/4	6 1/2	4 - 1/2	4 - 7 1/2	10 1/2	-	2 - 10 1/2	3 - 1	2 3/4	104	"
14	"	"	♂ 1 -	3 -	5 1/2	7	4 - 2	4 - 9	11	-	2 - 11	3 - 2 1/2	2 1/2	113	"
15	"	"	♀ 1 -	2 3/4	5 1/8	6 1/4	4 - 2	4 - 8 1/2	11	-	2 - 9 1/2	3 - 1/2	2 1/2	102	"
16	"	Feb - 3	♀ 2 -	3 1/8	5 1/8	6 3/4	4 - 8	5 - 4	1 -	-	3 - 4 1/2	3 - 6	3 1/4	150	Tolerably fat
17	"	" 3	♂ 2	2 3/4	4 1/2	6 1/4	4 - 6 1/2	5 - 2	11 1/2	-	3 - 2	3 - 5 3/4	3	146	"
18	"	"	♂ 2	2 7/8	5 1/8	6 3/4	4 - 6 3/4	5 - 2 1/2	11 1/2	-	3 - 1	3 - 6	2 3/4	139	"
19	"	" 12	♂ 1	2 3/4	5	6 1/2	4 - 3	4 - 9	10	-	2 - 11	3 - 3	3 1/4	104	"
20	"	" 12	♂ 5 to 6	3 1/4	6 1/4	7 1/2	5 - 5 1/2	6 - 8 1/2	1 - 3	-	3 - 9 1/2	4 - 3	4 1/2	242	Fair condition
21	"	March 31	♂ ?	3 5/8	6 1/2	9 -	6 3/4	7 -	1 - 5	-	4 - 1	4 - 2	6	274	Very, very old, in poor condition
22	"	" 31	♀ 4 to 5	3 1/8	6	8	5 - 7	6 - 5	1 - 2 1/2	-	3 - 7 3/4	3 - 8 1/2	4 1/4	209	Had young this season, poor con-
23	"	Apr 1	♀ 4 to 5	3 5/8	6 1/2	8	5 - 8 1/2	6 - 5	1 - 3	-	3 - 7 1/2	3 - 7	4 1/4	197	" " " " " very "
24	"	"	♂ 2	3 -	5 5/8	6 3/4	4 - 7 1/2	5 - 2	1 - 1 1/2	-	3 - 5 1/2	3 - 7	3 1/4	153	Very fat, 71 lbs of fat alone
25	"	"	♀ 4 to 5	3 -	6 1/4	7 3/4	5 - 5 1/2	6 - 2 1/2	1 - 1 1/2	-	3 - 4	3 - 4 1/2	4 1/4	169	Poor, had young this season
26	"	" 3	♀ 3 to 4	3	6	7 1/2	5 - 7	6 - 3	1 - 3 1/2	-	3 - 8	4 - 1	4 1/2	225	Had no young yet - very fat
27	"	" 3	♀ 3	3 1/8	5 3/4	8	5 - 5	6 - 1	1 - 2	-	3 - 5	3 - 4	4 1/4	165	Had young this season, very poor
28	"	" 6	♀ 2	2 3/4	5 3/4	6 3/4	4 - 4	4 - 11	1 - 2	-	3 - 6	3 - 8	3 1/4	154	Very fat, 66 lbs fat alone -

All killed by same person, Edmund Couvreur, in one morning's hunt.

All killed by same person, Edmunds, in one morning hunt.

Check 551 Collect \$10.62

The mail couriers on their return from Esquimaux Point arrived here yesterday. Reports that on the 18th of January arrived at Pigeon, in a settlement belonging to fisherman, of St. Thomas. This place being occupied only during the summer. When arrived in the evening went into a camp for the night. Found a stove but no stove pipe, as it is the general custom every fisherman takes away the stove pipes and hides them in case they might be destroyed. A search was made for the pipes. An Indian in company with the mail couriers went into another camp and immediately ran out, saying that a great big dog had faced him, and showed his teeth at him. The curiosity of the whole party, consisting of three mail couriers, one lumberman accompanying them down home to Sand Point, below St. Johns river, and the Indian being in the same company with them as Pilot. They all went to see the curiosity. As they came to the door of the camp, an enormous bear showed his head, when Smith who had a small axe in his hand, threw it at the bear and struck him on the jaw bone, which determined the bear to take for the woods. All hands at the time were prepared for a regular fight. One had a clam digger, another a tomahawk, and the rest sticks taking him on flanks. At first

the bear in the open field, where the snow had drifted, Bruin had the advantage, and was very near getting hold of the Indian pilot, but escaped miraculously. The crowd seeing the advantage of the bear on hard snow, surrounded him, and made him take his course to the woods, where Bruin found the snow too soft and deep to carry his body, remained there, meshed like a mackerel in a net. There Bruin had to surrender under the blows of his enemies, of which he would have made a good meal out of them, if they had had reached this camp during the night time. The mail couriers were well pleased to hear that Mr Tetu had located the line for the telegraph and signal service, also for the convenience of the mail, through the portage of the Sambons, for it is dangerous and long journeys,

through which there is no habitations to be reached for the safety of travelers, having themselves been delayed, four days through the said portage and short of provisions.

They met on their way back up the Reverend Mr Desjardins the missionary from Bersimis to Moisie at River St Marguerite. Who had passed through Mr Tetu's portage and gave the best accounts and told us it was shorter distance of the half and misery of the whole -

D. H.
~~Mapp~~

Feb March 1884

They left St Marguerites river on the
sixth of February and arrived here
at 12 o'clock next day. Mr Tetu leaves
on the 9th for Quebec to report on
the Telegraph and Signal Service for
the whole North Shore Coast.

The heavy falls of snow have been
contrary to lumbermen. Poor hunting
through the woods this winter.

A great deal of white partridges
has been killed on the coast.

All the news of the North Shore
will be in Mr Tetus report

Sif P. J. Bowman of

G. K 551 Collect
From Pentecoste River 9th February /84
To Morning Chronicle Quebec.
Repeated by f. B to 2.

I send you this message, as I remember
I promised to do so. I send it just as I
took it when sent by the Operator.
Nap. A. C.

To Dr C. H. Merriam

You need not return this

This message cost the "Morning Chronicle"
\$10.62

Measurements of Seals,
Numbered to correspond with labels
on the same.

No 1 Length from tip of nose to tail
five feet eleven inches

♂ Girth at fore flippers 4 feet
" one foot behind the
fore flippers 4 ft 1 inch

Distance between fore flippers 1 ft
No 2 Length tip to tail ♂ 5 ft 7 inches
Girth at flipper ♂ 4 ft
one foreback of " " 4 "

Breadth between fore flippers 1 - 2 -

No 3 Length tip of nose to end
of hind flippers - 6 ft 10

Girth fore flippers ♂ 4 - 2
1 ft behind " " ♂ 4 - 2 1/2

Breadth between flippers
very old seal 1 - 3 -

No 4 Length tip to tail 5 - 5 -

Girth at flipper ♂ 4 -
1 ft behind " " ♂ 4 - 1 -

Breadth between flippers 1 - 2

This specimen has got a sun-
stroke on right side, if you cannot
do any thing with it just put it away
and let me know -

No 5 Length tip to tail 6 ft 1 -

Girth at flippers ♀ 3 - 9 -

1 ft behind " " ♀ 3 - 8 -

Between flippers 1 - 1

Adult female had given birth

to young a few days previous
to being shot, March 17/84 -
all the seals in this list
were killed in March. at
Point du Mont -

The female skeletons are of
seals in their 2nd years -
The two males adults -

H. A. C. -

Note

On one of the seals the ^{part} ~~part~~ of the
sternum or breast bone is wanting,
having been cut by the harpoon. I
will replace it in my next box
I send you. I suppose bones can
be thus replaced provided they are
of same age & sex? -

Alcoholics

- 1 Star nosed mole August 13/88
- 2 snakes July /88
- 1 Shrew mouse, string on hind leg Feb 7/89
- 3 Frogs June /88.
- 1 Shrew, no marks Nov 14th/88
- 1 Shrew string on fore leg June 21/88
- 1 Lizard (smaller) May 29/88
- 1 - (larger) August 20/88
- 1 Water beetle June /88.

You will also find a hair worm
lurking around the lizards fore leg

Commonwealth Club of California

1925-1928

83/29
C

TADINI BACIGALUPI
CHARLES DE Y. ELKUS
HERBERT H. SALINGER

LAW OFFICES
BACIGALUPI & ELKUS
550 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

Declined - con

July
27th
1925

C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas,
Marin County, Calif.

Dear Sir:--

The Section on Indian Affairs of the Commonwealth Club has taken up with the Luncheon Committee the question of their setting aside a meeting in the Fall, one of the regular Friday Luncheon meetings at the Palace Hotel, for a talk on the Indians of California to be given by yourself. The Luncheon Committee has gladly acceded to the request and would be very pleased if you would favor us. I trust that your answer will be favorable and that you will advise me as to what dates might be agreeable to you in September or October.

The luncheons are held at 12.15 and extend to about 1.30, the speaker being allowed approximately forty-five minutes. The attendance varies from about three hundred to five hundred depending upon the interest in the subject or the speaker.

Yours very truly,

Charles F. Elkus

CE/P

COMMONWEALTH CLUB OF CALIFORNIA
345 SUTTER STREET, SAN FRANCISCO
TELEPHONE DOUGLAS 4903

Accepted - cm
July 24, 1925.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
SECTION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS:-

The next meeting of the Section
will be held at the Club Rooms, 345 Sutter
Street, on

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1925, AT 12:15 P.M.

I trust that your reply on the
enclosed postal card will be favorable.

Very truly yours,

CHAS. De Y. ELKUS, Chairman
Section on Indian Affairs.

TADINI BACIGALUPI
CHARLES DE Y. ELKUS
HERBERT H. SALINGER

LAW OFFICES
BACIGALUPI & ELKUS
550 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

Mar.
5th
1926

Recd + Ans'd. March II, 1926

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th Street,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:--

Your letter of the 26th ult. came to hand. There is no objection to the amendment made by you. Certainly things have been moving rapidly at Washington with respect to the Indian situation. I trust that we may have a little good fortune and get one or both of our California bills through. I guess this is too much. One would be a decided accomplishment. The Commonwealth Club will make its report on the 18th of this month. Sorry you will not be with us as this time we would insist on your saying a word.

With kind regards,

Charles De Y. Elkus

CE/P

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	BLUE
NIGHT MESSAGE	NITE
NIGHT LETTER	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

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GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	BLUE
NIGHT MESSAGE	NITE
NIGHT LETTER	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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DR C HART MERRIAM

331

1919 SIXTEENTH ST WASHINGTON DC

COMMONWEALTH CLUB HOLDS DINNER MEETING ON CALIFORNIA INDIANS

EVENING OF MARCH EIGHTEENTH STOP DESIRABLE WE HAVE TWO OR THREE

REPRESENTATIVE INDIANS WHO CAN PRESENT THEIR CASE STOP ARE TRYING TO

SECURE ROBERT SCOTT STOP CAN YOU SUGGEST NAME AND ADDRESSES OF OTHER

INDIANS WHO COULD MAKE A GOOD PRESENTATION STOP LET US HAVE A FEW

WORDS FROM YOURSELF ALSO STOP

CHARLES DEY ELKUS CHAIRMAN COMMONWEATH CLUB SANFRANCISCO.

*and night letter
March 10 1936*

TADINI BACIGALUPI
CHARLES DE Y. ELKUS
HERBERT H. SALINGER

LAW OFFICES
BACIGALUPI & ELKUS
550 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

Added. March 29, 1926

Mar.
22nd
1926

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:--

Stephen Knight together with Mr. Benson came to the meeting and made a very good impression. All in all I think the meeting was successful and may help by getting us a little additional support and some funds.

Sincerely,

Charles de Y. Elkus

CE/P

COMMONWEALTH CLUB OF CALIFORNIA

FOUNDED 1903

345 SUTTER STREET, SAN FRANCISCO

TELEPHONE DOUGLAS 4903

GOVERNORS

EDWARD F. ADAMS
T. D. BOARDMAN
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May 3, 1928.

Ans. May 16, 1928

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FRANK T. SWETT

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EDGAR WALTER

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BARTON W. EVERMANN

STATE HIGHWAYS
CHARLES D. MARX

STREAM PROTECTION
F. H. FOWLER

TRAFFIC HAZARDS
CHRISTOPHER M. BRADLEY

Mr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Sir:

President Thurston requests that members of the Section on Indian Affairs advise him whether or not there is opportunity for the Commonwealth Club to give helpful service on the problems of the California Indians.

The Section is at present without a Chairman and in the absence of a definite goal for the Section, the President is somewhat at a loss in seeking a successor to Chairman Elkus.

Please give the President such suggestions as may occur to you.

Very truly yours,

E. A. Walcott

Executive Secretary.

EAW.K

Amstutz, John Henry, 1849-1931

1910

83/124
C



THE HERMITAGE ON CAYUGA
R. F. D. 34, TRUMANSBURG, N. Y.

Sept. 3, 1910

My dear Mr Merriam:

I am reading with great enjoyment your The Dawn of the World; and I am especially interested in the myth regarding the poison spider. I wish to quote this in my spider book, which I am just finishing.

You say "all the tribes know that this spider is poisonous and some of them make use of the poison." Can you tell me in what way they use the venom? How do they separate it from the spider and what use do they make of it.

2
It is a very strange fact that
the various species of Lathrodectus
wherever they occur, the world
over, are feared. And still
I know of no student of spiders
who believes that these spiders
are dangerous. Of course all
spiders secrete venom enough
to kill the insects upon which
they feed; but I know of no
reason for regarding Lathrodectus
more venomous than other
spiders except that "where there
is so much smoke there must
be some fire." I have thought
that this may be a case of
unusually efficient warning
coloration; for certainly they
are ugly looking beasts.

We were delighted to learn
of your great good fortune,
and it is glorious to have it
come early enough in life so
that you may confidently look
for many fruitful years.

3

We three, G. K., Mrs Ceenstock, and myself are having a delightfully quiet time in this retreat. As we are away from interruptions we are getting much work done.

Gilbert is really much improved in health. He works on his report a large part of every day. He worked more hours during the month of August than he had worked during any month since he left Berkeley.

We congratulate you on the beauty of The Dawn of the World

With kindest regards from us all, very sincerely yours

J. H. Ceenstock

And. at Yosemite, Calif.
Oct. 13, 1910. - C

FROM
JOHN HENRY COMSTOCK,
PROFESSOR OF ENTOMOLOGY
IN CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Ithaca, N. Y., October 25, 1910.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 - 16th Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam :

I am very greatly obliged to you for the letter which you wrote from the Yosemite. If you do not object I am going to publish what you say about the use by the Indians of the poison of *Latrodectus*.

Much of the evidence for and against the venomous nature of the bite of *Latrodectus* was brought together by Riley and Howard in *INSECT LIFE*, Volume I, page 204. You will find this volume in the department library. In a later part of the same journal, page 280, Dr. E. R. Corson gives an account of several cases in his practice in each of which the patient who suffered greatly was supposed to have been bitten by a spider, but in none of the cases was the spider seen except in one, and in that case the specimen was lost and consequently was not determined.

The evidence taken, as a whole, and I have gone over foreign literature as well as our own very carefully, is certainly very confusing. I think the best that we can do now is to retain the Scotch verdict of "not proven".

Very sincerely yours,

J. H. Comstock

The Under

1908

By Robert B. Rowell

J. GRINNELL,
EDITOR
PASADENA, CAL.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:
WILLIAM L. FINLEY,
264 MADISON ST.,
PORTLAND, ORE.

ROBT. B. ROCKWELL,
1322 E. 13TH AVE.,
DENVER, COLO.

THE CONDOR

A BI-MONTHLY ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE OF WESTERN ORNITHOLOGY

PUBLISHED BY THE

COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

AT HOLLYWOOD, CAL.

J. EUGENE LAW,
BUSINESS MANAGER
HOLLYWOOD, CAL.

Denver, Colo., October 14th, 1908.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of recent date (requesting a print of the Rocky Mountain Screech Owl which appeared in the last Condor) is at hand and I hasten to acknowledge it. I am accordingly mailing you under separate cover the print you request and also am taking the liberty of mailing you two other prints, which show a striking example of protective coloration. I shall of course make no charge for these prints, but rather feel highly complimented that my work along this line should receive this recognition from you.

I spend all of my leisure time in bird study and photography (although bird study is of necessity a side issue with me) and if at any time I can furnish you with any photos that you can utilize I shall consider it a privilege to do so.

Please feel at liberty to publish these in any way you see fit.

Hoping to be favored by further correspondence from you, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Robt. B. Rockwell

1240 Downing St.
Denver, Colo.

*Recd. Oct. 24, 1908.
exam*

Conston, William Augustus, 1837-1913

1882-1890

83/29
C

CITY OF NEW YORK.
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS.

OFFICE OF MENAGERIE,
64th STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE,

July 4 1882

Dr H Merriam

My dear Sir

In answer to your favor
of the 29: I would state that the Panther
referred to in my letter came from Texas.

I have never heard any of the females
scream or cry except under the circumstances
mentioned - They occasionally utter a sound
like the mew-ing of a domestic cat but louder.

I would refer you to Frank J Thompson
Supt Zool Gardens Cincinnati for information
respecting the bears, I know he would be
happy to furnish it - In respect to my
letter you can do as you please but I
think it would be better if you put the
substance of it in your own language.

I will look up my notes in regard to some
of the other animals about which you
make inquiry

Very respectfully yours
W H Merriam

WILLIAM A. CONKLIN,

Central Park Menagerie,

64th Street and 5th Avenue.

New York,

Nov 14 188 x

Dr C. A. Merriam

my dear sir

I beg to acknowledge
the receipt of your appreciable gift
from the reading of which I have
derived much pleasure and
profit

I forwarded to you the other
day a photograph of your pet
"Crowley" the chimpanzee

With many thanks for your kind
attention

I am very respectfully

Yours
W. A. Conklin

CITY OF NEW YORK,
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS,

36 Union Square, (East,)

C. R. Mearns

June 23 1895

Dear Sir

Yours of the 15th inst. duly received & would state that the Cardinalis virginianus do breed in the Park. By referring to a report of the Manager sent you the other day, you will see on page 21 mention of two birds of this species captured in Park. There were nestlings that I took out of the nest myself & raised by hand. This year we have as many as 20 or 30 nests. All these birds do not remain throughout the winter but a majority of them will -

We also have another bird a permanent resident of the Park or at least remained with us all through last winter & that is the Goldfinch Carduelis elegans Steph. - Hab. Europe. Last summer there were several nests & this summer I have counted over a dozen. The young birds have left all these nests with the exception of one at the present writing

The birds procure the turtle seeds outside of
the barn among the rocks & waste places
uptown. They build in the white pine & maple.

These birds have been set at liberty by some
person and if I can only protect the nests from
being robbed am in hopes that they will become
acclimatized. In 1877 I set at liberty some

twenty pair of Starlings *Sternus vulgaris* but
I think they all went across the river to
New Jersey. Three or four times since I
have seen several of the birds on the Park.
but they did not remain. I have more starlings
that I intend to set at
liberty this year

In the year 1874 I set
at liberty about 50 pair English Sky-larks. They
all flew over towards Long Island. Since ^{then} I
have heard of the birds several times -

S. C. Mearns

Very truly yours
W. H. Linnell

Conover, A

B

1917 - 1921

Re gulls, shells, habits of bears in Alaska, etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA,

May 14th 1917

Dr Merriam
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of Jan 29th
came to late to answer before
last-mail of the season by
dog train. Am sending you
by Ex per your instructions
[3 Griggs + 1 Seal Wed. May 28, 1917]
four Grizzly skulls. one of
them was not properly cleaned
and may be of no value. the
three large ones I think are good
specimens.

As to the question you ask
am afraid I can not give you
any definite information.

Grizzlies usually hold up about
Nov 1st but it depends entirely
on the weather they stay in
all winter unless as sometimes
happens we have a protracted
& warm spell I have seen

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA, 191

them out - every month in the year. on the upper Chukotka, a tributary of the Stikine there are many warm springs and many small bluffs that were frozen these same places are full of salmon, on which the E. feed. I might say that the salmon are their principal food when there are no live fish they dig old dead ones from the bottom and from under the snow and ice along the bank. I have never noticed any difference in kind of dressing between male and female, but the female with Cubs does not come out as early in the spring. we have had an opportunity to notice if the mountain bear came out as early as the river bear but do not think that they do

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

3

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA, 191

the first tracks seen in the spring
are always along the river. I should
say that the habits of all the G. in
this locality were much the same
except of course as to food the
mountain bear is more of a
vegetarian than his river cousin
probably because at some seasons
he can't get anything else. I do
not know when harem takes place
the male and female are together
for some time in Sept. & Oct. -
I have killed females in Feb with
unborn cubs and in making en-
quiries have been told the same by
others so I do not think that in
this locality the young are born in
January. I think however that there
is no general rule but that the
dates of all these things varies
greatly with different seasons
and with individual animals

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

4

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA,..... 191

I have killed many bear and seen
many more but have always
concluded that the G. was harm-
less. unless attacked and cornered
the Bear killed Apr 22nd the skull
of which I am sending. delib-
erately attacked me and I did
not see him till he was
charging. so I think it unsafe
to make any definite rule about
them.

Will try and get you some
more heads. please send me some
more tags and ^{say} if those I have
sent are properly prepared.

Please excuse the length of
this letter but could not answer
your questions by ipso or no.

Respectfully

Blom

Telegraph Club

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA,

Oct-6th 1917

C. Hart-Merriman
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I am sending you by express
as directed by your letter of May 29th
two Guppy skulls and trust they
will arrive all right and prove sat-
isfying. One of them, the smaller,
was killed only 20 ft. from
door of house in the act of
stealing meat.

Respectfully
A. B. Conover [Conover]
Telegraph Club
B. C.

Matt Matheson
May 6, 1918. cam

Telegraph Creek Mich 18 -
Dr C Hart Merriam

Dear Sir,

The two skulls now
left by me last October with
J Matheson, of Wanganui to
be expressed at once, will
make immediate enquiry
about them. Expect to be
able to send some more
this spring

Y Rely
Abelone

Telegraph Creek
B.C.

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor
Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA

Recd June 29th 1918
June 4th 1918

Dr C. Hart-Merriman

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

You have doubtless heard
the two bear skulls before their
shipment was delayed here
through mistake, and sending
you the new one from here
the other will be sent to you
by A. H. Bannan of Portsmouth
Ohio.

In your first letter to me you
asked me to tell you about any
bear out of the ordinary. Mr
Bannan will also send you
the skull of one killed by him
on Chisna, a black bear with
gray sides and shoulders. He told
me he would write you a
detailed description of it. He
promised to do so.

Very truly yours,
J. G. Grant, Proprietor, B.C.

Richard A. Bannan

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA,

Recd. June 29, 1918
June 15th 1918

Dr C. Hart-Merriam

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

Your letter acknowledging receipt of
the two skulls sent - last fall just-received
I am sending two more one expressed
yesterday and one today they are I
think good specimens and one of
them is large. another will be sent
later by Mr. Bauman of Portland
for me and expect to get some
more soon.

Recd. June 29, 1918

Yours Resp
A. Bauman

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor
Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

*Guest here March 19, 1919
(Previously named by Bieble, Bial, Lewis)*

WRANGELL, ALASKA, *Oct-3rd* 191*8*

Dr C. H. Merriam

Dear Sir,

Am sending today by
express one small Bear skull. and
I do not know what it is.
its coat is dark brown with
a cream colored strip from head
to tail. it was a female and had
suckled a cub. this season, and
did not weigh more than
100^{lb}.

Bannon

Mr ~~Bannon~~ write me
he is sending you the two
skulls I wrote you about
one Guppy and one Glover. would
like to know if the Glover is
distinct species or only a
fresh. would also like shipping
tags. and tags from skulls.

Rick

A B Connor
Tugboat Capt. B.C.

C O P Y

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

Wrangell, Alaska.

Oct. 8, 1918.

Dr. C. H. Merriam:

Dear Sir:

Am sending today by express one small bear skull and I do not know what it is. Its coat is dark brown with a cream colored strip from head to tail. It was a female and had suckled a cub this season and did not weigh more than 100 lbs.

^{Bannon}
Mr. ~~Barrow~~ (?) writes me he is sending you the two skulls

I wrote you about - one grizzly and one glacier. Would like to know if the glacier is distinct species or only a freak. Would also like shipping tags and tags for skulls.

Resp.,

/s/ A. B. Conover,

Telegraph Creek, B. C.

This skull came by express collect Oct 21 -
It is a small old ♀ bear just like a small
black bear. The description suggests a glacier
bear in some phase. I am writing Conover
to try to get the skin if it is not too expensive.
am sending him the tags.

Ans'd. March 19, 1919.

Telegraph Auto Feb 18th 1919

Dear Dr.

I sent you last-October, ^[Left.] by express from
Waukegan a small Guppy skull and have never heard
from you also note you at the same time
asking for some more shipping tags. have
two large skulls now that I will ship as
soon as you wish.

Yours Resd
A. B. Cooper

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

Ackdg. May 30, 1919
EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA, May 8th 1919

Dear Dr. Merriam

Yours of March 19th
reached and note what you say
about the small skull I sent you
being a Black's instead of a Gyspy.
I am going to send you a
photograph of the skin, if that
does not convince you, will send
you the skin itself. once before
I sent a small skull that you
called a Black's, then I was not
sure as I got it from some
one else, but this time I made
the kill myself and still have

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA, 191.....

the full-, it-looks more like a
large Holmivine than anything
else. Am sending you one very
large supply. had two, but sold one
of the skins to a museum
that-wanted the skull for mounting
but-will send you some more
shells.

Res
A. H. Bannison

On Grizzly skull (3 ad) sent me by A. H. Bannison

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

Wedg. June 20, 1919.
EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor
Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA, June 4th 1919

Dr Merriam

Dear Sir,

Am sending you today
two Gully skulls, one very large. Have
not your proper address here, so am
sending to Dept.

Please send me some shipping
tags as I expect to have more skulls
soon

Respectfully

A. B. Connor.

Telegraph Creek B. C.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

Headquarters for Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor
Sample Rooms for Traveling Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA,

Recd. July 24, 1919
EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

June 19th 1919

Dr C Hart-Mumain

Dear Sir. Have shipped you
today by American Ry & Ex
one box of three Gygis shells
will send another in few days
these are all from near the
mouth of Iskut River.

Respectfully
A. B. Connor
Iskut River BC

Acld. July 24, 1919

Telegraph Creek, June 29th 1919

Dr C. Hart-Merriman,

Dear Dr. your letter of May 30th just-
received. And am much interested in what-
you say about the little bear. I would
like to have you see this skin, the claws
are on and you can tell better what it-
is after seeing it; would be glad to
donate it to the interest of science and
will ship it to you, whenever you
direct.

Yours Truly

A B. Connor

Ans'd. Sept. 6, 1919.

Telegraph Creek;

Aug. 19, 1919

Dr C Hart Marrian;

Dear Sir;

I am sending you by this mail directed to biological survey Washington the little bear skin about which we are in controversy. The Indians tell me that these little bear are but rarely seen and never except at high altitude, and they call them by a Indian word meaning "very small grizzly".

I believe them to be a species by themselves as we find them in places not frequented by the black bear proper, and I have never heard of one being seen along the river.

As to the skull of this bear no check has ever been received, and you can include it with the skin in my donation to the museum, we will let the tail go with the hide.

I received check from the department for three skulls that you saw but have heard nothing from the three shipped latter.

I can get a very large Grizzly head killed on the Iskoot, the skull is all right except that the teeth are very badly broken and worn, will that affect its value?

Yours truly,

A. B. Cooper

Ans'd. June 12, 1920.

Telegraph Creek B.C.
May 5th 1920

Dear Dr. Mearns,

Have you decided what-kind of
a bear, the skin of which I sent you
last Sept. is?

Expect to send you some skulls
about June 1st - from Isert.

Ref.
A.B. Cooper

Added Sept. 26, 1920

Telegraph Creek Aug 10th 1920

Dr C. Hart-Merriman

Lagunitas Cal

Dear Sir,

Your letter about the seal skull & skin was duly received and am glad to hear the point settled.

You asked me once to write you anything I might come across. That was only of the kind concerning bear, was on the mountain yesterday and saw a large shaggy wild cub, was only about 100 yds away and had good glasses the cub was a very dark brown but with a white band like a 4 in ruff around its neck. I never saw one like it.

Sent you two large male grizzly skulls from Thurgill about June 6th have not heard from them, [Recd. July 23] written at least 30

Respectfully

A B. Cooper

ELECTRIC LIGHTS
HEATED BY STEAM

Dec 21 1921
EVERYTHING NEW
EVERYTHING CLEAN

Headquarters For Big Game Hunters

THE WRANGELL HOTEL

J. G. GRANT, Proprietor

Sample Rooms For Commercial Men

WRANGELL, ALASKA, June 8th 1921

Dr C Hart-Merriman.

Dear Dr

I shipped you by this
boat one bear skull. Also shipped
4 about May 2nd, [Recd. May 19th ^{\$25.} for female]

Resd

A B Cronin

Telegraph Creek BC.

Constable, Howard

1917-1925

83/124
C

Ans'd. Feb. 28, 1917

THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB.

WASHINGTON.

Feb. 27th
Dear Harry,

Is not Dr. Wiley
located in Washington and
do you know him well enough
to give an introduction?

My wife has wanted to meet
him especially as she has
brought up little Mary Howard
somewhat on the principles he
has applied to his children.

I have enjoyed seeing you
very much and Fanny was

Fascinated by your collection
and your account of how it
was collected.

In this age of money madness
& political ineffectiveness it is very
interesting & comforting to know
that some truly scientific & useful
work can & is being pursued un-
hindered, as in your case.

Sincerely yours

Howard Constable

C. Hart Merriam

1919-16. ^{Esq.} St. N.V.

I suppose I should have written
Dr. instead of Esq.

THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB.
WASHINGTON.

Recd & ansd.
March 2, 1917

Mar. 1st/₁₇

Dear Harry

Sammy and our fresh air
baby are delighted at the prospect
of meeting Dr. Wiley. I am very
much obliged to you.

Steve has just written me and
sent his most particular regards
to you and pleasant recollection
of the old days in Lewis Co.

He asks me for some information
which I have embodied in an
enclosed letter, hoping it will
not be too much trouble for you

to address it to the proper authorities.

We hope to see you again after the hurly-burly of inauguration.

Last night about 5 tons of suit cases were dumped in front of the hotel & at midnight 175 girls from Tennessee schools arrived & 50 more this morning.

I leave the rest to your imagination. Fanny has pinned a badge on Mary-Howard KEEP OFF I have added

KISS-ME-NOT
TRY IT ON FATHER

My name has not been changed to Hobson as yet.

We went to see an old friend of mine (John Drew) play last night and Fanny spoke to such a nice girl just in front of us only to find

it was not your daughter as Fanny at
first felt sure of.

Yours sincerely
Howard Constable

42 PRINCETON AVENUE
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
TEL. 1017-J

Recd. Feb. 5, 1925

Feb. 4th. 1925.

Dear Hart.

A friend of mine has a house up on a hill in Westchester Co. N.Y. and wants to improve the Heating. I have forgotten some of the details you told me about your plant. Will you be so kind as to fill in the enclosed. It was a pleasure to see you. Give my very kind regards to Mrs. Merriam and to that delightful daughter of your. I am glad my wise doctor told me dancing was good for suppleness, digestion and good spirits. All well here and deep in "education" and like it.

Sincerely yours.

Howard Constable

42 PRINCETON AVENUE
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
TEL. 1017-J

Feb. 8th. 1925.

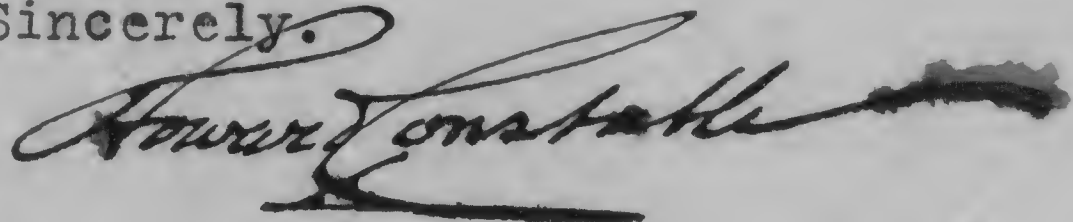
Dear Hart.

I am very much obliged for the information about the heater. My friend will be pleased to have accurate information about this new system.

We heard about you the other day from your friend Mrs. Connors. Fanny took her two children to church today so it looked as if my family had grown to four lively youngsters.

With very kind regards to you all;

Sincerely.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Howard Constable", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gustable, John

1877-1884

83/124
✓

Ans. Dec. 5th 1877.

Rockwood, Roane Co. Tenn.

Nov. 27th 1877.

Mr. C. Hart-Merriam.

My dear Hart-

James

tells me he was much
pleased with your "Microscope"
and was much pleased with
it. Will you be good enough
to give me the address of the
maker and the price.

I hope this will find you
still at Home - giving
your mind and head the
rest they require.

We are comfortably settled
in this God forsaken district, and
are happy in being together, but
I am often homesick.

My son is finishing a
large Furnace which goes
into blast next month. he
is now making iron @

By your Father and Charles. believe me your sincere friend
J. M. D. D. D.

\$11.60. of Ten delivered at the
Tenn. River. This place is 5.
miles west of the River, half way
between London & Chattanooga.
The climate - thus far is fine.
Mr. Comstock takes a walk
nearly every day. I have
found two Indian mounds
about ten miles, & if I can
make arrangements - hope to
explore one at least.

Should be pleased to hear
from you, what you are
doing

By your father and Charles. believe me your sincere friend
J. M. Comstock.

from Mother, and with mine to Florence and kind remembrance

doing, and what proposing.
Suppose by this time you
have now - tell Florence
she must keep up her ^{practice}
on snowshoes - for I get ^{hope}
to keep open the path between
our "wigwams".

My son James is deep
in collecting Ferns. he has
30. new varieties growing in boxes.
I mean such as do not grow
with us. he collected 32. kinds
in one wood at Brumstract.
Mr. Comstock desires her love to

Ans. Dec. 5th 1871.

Rockwood, Roane Co. Tenn.

10th Decr. 1877.

My dear Art, Thanks to your
prompt-reply to my last.

Glad to hear that you are in
Town, and particularly glad to
hear you are attending my favorite
lectures - if I was a young man
I would pursue the same course.

I visited every part of the College
just before I left with my
nephew William Dinepont.
Have you met him?

I am going to take advantage
of your kind offer to assist
me, and request you to send
me a Microscope. Now if
it is to give you trouble, or
take too much of your time,
just endorse the enclosed
Check to the Maker and
have him pack one very carefully
and forward Sam^l Express.
But I should prefer one that
had been selected by you.

Perhaps there is an agent
for them in New York,

Today

"G"

I am anxious to make this a
Xmas present to my son.

Today I took a ride on horseback of 12
miles, and was introduced to a
"Squire" who has two "mounds" upon
his ground, and who has offered
to allow me to excavate. Should I
be fortunate in finding human bones,
you shall have some. I ride &
own a good deal, and never
enjoyed better health. 20 wild
geese flew over the lake over
a few days since - but they are
more difficult to shoot than deer.
I hope you will be able to
spend your Xmas at home.

Remember me most kindly to
one half of your circle and give my
love to Florence.

I wish we could all
be at home at the same time
and have a merry time.

Remember me kindly also
to your uncle Charles Collins.

Your sincere friend

J. Constable

direct Box.

J. Constable

Rockwood

Roane Co.,

Tenn.

via London.

Should the price vary from the
above - say 5 or 10. It. do as you
think fit. yourself I shall be satisfied.

Rocwood, Roane Co. Tenn.

20th Decr. 1877.

My dear Art,

Thanks for
your attention to my order,
and your interesting book -
which I am looking over
carefully. I have several
questions to ask you already,
but defer till my next,
as I am merely writing

Now in the hopes that
this will reach you at
Some in time to wish
you one and all, a Merry
Xmas and Happy New
Year. I hear they have
sleighing, and I am sure
you will make good use
of it. and I only wish I
could join you. From you

Mothers return, State for
granted, Florence is quite
well - my love to her, and
with kind remembrance
from all.

Believe me your
sincere friend

Wm. T. M. T. M. T. M.

Rockwood, Roane Co. Tenn.

23^d January 1878.

My dear Hart,

Your kind letter

of the 15th Inst. reached me last-
evening & the "microscope" this

morning. We have spent the

day admiring it, and examining

the various varieties of Ferns

we have growing in the house

and many of whose names it
is difficult to decide without
the aid of a good microscope.

My son James is delighted
with the Mechanism and
will pursue his botanical
studies with much more
relish than heretofore.

I shall be pleased to see
your "Museum" next-Summer.

and hope to be able to send you
some additions. I have not
yet attached any of those mounds,
but - as ^{soon as} the clay is dryer, I
will commence. I have a nice
Opessum shell for you - but perhaps
you have one. We are so much
pleased to hear Florence is here
again. you must have enjoyed
your short visit. We have had
very little frost this month, and

Some evenings have sat with the
doors open and the frogs croaking.
Mr. Comtable is pretty well. My
own quite so, & I never was better.
I take a good row upon the Tonn
river twice a week. have shot 27
Mallard, & 45. quail since I came.
One Mallard weighed $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. &.
I have looked over your "Conn. birds"
with much interest. I have many
questions to ask when we meet.
Old Thomas (1632) was an accurate
observer. "Saw 60. quail in a tree".

I cannot make out- whether you
believe Swallows spend the winter
in the mud, or not.

Do the wild Pigeons fly during
the night-?

Remember me most kindly
to your Mother & Father when
you write- also to Florence

I believe me yours sincerely

Wm. Montague.

Will you be good enough to send
me 5 mail .. 2 boxes of unground
glass specimen slides. You will know
what I mean & one box of round glass
"wafers". I enclose \$5. \$2. of which
are owing on the microscope.

Bones I found
La Curion

report will
the pieces of
of the whole
is the
clay with
town.

a large
who have
describe
a large.
nothing
down.

kind love

Rockwood, Roane Co.
Tenn.
12th March 1878.

My dear Hart, I have
delayed writing, in order
to announce the opening
of some of these ancient
mounds. We opened one
last week, but found it had
been ransacked before, and
a group of five skeletons found
in a sitting position.

yesterday I commenced
the opening of another (one
of a group of 6. The
owner of the land, who is
89. years old. says he cleared
heavy forest-trees from off
all of them. there is a stump
of nearly 2' dia: on the one
I am excavating. It
appears there are always
layers of the river clay
shells deposited from 4" to 6"
over every body. there

* all about us. from various places in the territory.

appears
below
of the
in a
bones
4' feet
there are
digger
the dig
expect
when
about 10
mounds
make ho

mened
the (one
The
who is
he clear
from off
is a stump
on the one
It
always
clam
from 4" to 6"
there

* all about - no. from mounds found in the locality.

appear to be from 4' to 6'
below the present surface
of the mounds. I send you
in a box a bundle of old
bones just as I found them
4' below the top of the mound.
there are all I found after
digging a well 7' dia to
the depth of 10 ft. I don't
expect to find the balance
when I finish the well to
about 16' the surface of the
surrounding land, and then
make horizontal cross cuts.

right - adding these bones I found
small pieces of pottery & a Curim
stone $4\frac{3}{4}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$. Pinepoint will
describe it. I send the pieces of
pottery. The balance of the whole
excavation thus far is the
original surrounding clay without
a scrap of bone or stone.

are there the bones of a large
man? all those who have
examined bones, describe
them as unusually large.

I hope to find something
more worth sending down.

We are all well. Kind love

To all at home when you write. Pinepoint will tell you.

My dear Doctor
Will you be
good enough to examine
the bearer Patrick Caranagh
for me and give him your
opinion.

Oblige you
sincerely friend

Wm Comtable
24th June 1880.

To Dr. Hart Merriam

7. West 30th St.

New York 5th Feby
1884.

My dear Doctor,

I have yours
of yesterday. Spare yourself!
you are working your brain
too hard - get into the woods
as soon as possible.

Dora arrived on Monday
evening - Mr. C. I met her,
and drove to his home. Yesterday
Mrs. C. I accompanied her

to Dr. Taylor. The
young doctor, who knows
you, enquired where you
resided. After a careful
examination Dr. Taylor
said Dora would be all
right in from three to
four weeks, if put under
his care. I expect to
take her there tomorrow &
Mr. C. & I will visit her
daily. The Dr. introduced

The
knows
you
Cough
for
all
to
under
act to
or &
her
induced

us to the Station and
her sister, who showed us
over the building - very many
nice looking patients - from
ten to fifty - years of age,
My Brother's diary states
we killed the last Disease
in March 1836.

My kind regards to
your Mother and Father
and to Florence when you
write. Mr. C. is pretty well
Your sincere friend
J^r W^r Combs

My dear Doctor,

I am sure
you will excuse my silence
when I tell you I have been
nursing James in Easton for the
past fortnight. He had a
severe attack of acute muscular
rheumatism, from which he has
recovered much reduced in
strength. I can ^{not} fix any
date for the death of the
Governor.

Moose. but he ought to be
able to give the names of the
two men who went into the
forest with him. I think he
went from Prospect.

I am glad to say Lora
has continued to improve -
she walks out nearly every
day. you probably will see
her soon. Mr. Comtable is
about holding his average health
and joins me in kind regards
to you all

Yours very sincerely
M^r. Comtable

Dr. Hart C. Merriam
Locust Grove,
3. March 1884.

J. W. 30th 11-
4th Mich 1882,

My dear Doctor,

I wrote
you a few lines yesterday
(3. Mch) and receive yours
of same date this moment.

It was I who took the
Governor into the woods in
1849, and engaged Chas.
to wait upon him. Right
& I were hunting for a Moose

signs for many days
upon the headwaters of
Smith Lake, inlets and
those of the north branch
of Moore river without
success. it was then that
I shot that fine specimen
of the Spruce grouse.

Gov. Seymour visited
the Raquette with Chas.
Fenton and gave us

days
of
and
Branch
at
that
specimen
anted
of Ch.
us

some samples of his
Culinary acquirements.

I still think he went
in by the way of Prospect
when he shot his moose,
& if you could learn the
names of his guides, they
must remember the year.

Sincerely yours

Wm. Conant

I hope a
out door
to night.
a Bagg
head of
at time.

if the
"My
ap. he is
his hand
tered in the
Certificate.
out of the

one Mother
the.
and
table

My dear Doctor,

I certainly
owe you an apology for
not having long since ack'd.
the receipt your very interesting
Book. I determined to
read it at once and then
write to you. For more
than a month I had the
daily care of my brother Wm
until his son returned to him

then I had to go to P. H. C. to
see Sadie Comstock, who is fading
away &c &c. Now I have just
finished reading it aloud to my
Wife and Cousins - all of whom
have been much interested and
desire their thanks. I was very
sorry not to see you when in Town.
A previous engagement - prevented
my coming around to your meeting
with young Bicknell.

My Brother William, I am
glad to say, is much better. My
niece Sadie no better and

gr
yester
My
is
old
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you
than
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left

gradually fading away - and
yesterday I received a telegram that
my Brother James' daughter in law
is very ill - has a child three weeks
old. -

I think there was nothing in
your work that surprised me more
than the sire of ^{the} young of the Black
Bear.

I will say nothing of Sheppard's
Panther leaps. +!!!

30th Nov. I must hurry this off,
or other interruptions may prevent.
I have just returned from the funeral
of my Nephew's Stevenson's young wife.
Left Siddy very feeble. My wife

is not very bright, but I hope a
little fine weather and out door
exercise will put things to rights.

I met your Cousin Dr. Bagg a
short time since, and heard of
his marriage for the first time.

Tell your Father that if he
thinks well of the "Holdsom" my
old Bull is for sale cheap. He is
full Hard - from Mr. Miller's herd
of Cazenovia. He is registered in the
Herd book and I have the Certificate.
It is a pity - to let him go out of the
County. price \$50.

Kind regards to your Mother
Florence and your Father.

your sincere friend
In "Comtable"

Cooke, Wells Woodbridge

1883-1914

83/129
C

Caddo. Ind. Ter.

Nov. 13. 1883.

C. Hart Merriam.

Locust Grove. N. Y.

Dear Sir.

I wrote you yesterday that I would endeavor to duplicate my former letter. I wrote you before that I had had so little time to think of the matter — answering within six hours of the time I received your first letter — that I could not give much advice for next year. Since then I have had the subject much on my mind and am better prepared to give my views.

I enclose a copy of the circular which I sent last year to nearly every prominent ornithologist

in the Miss. Valley, and to all the observers. On this I would make the following notes.

No. 1. This division into six groups I have found quite useful in my own work and can see no reason why it is not a good Classification, but in actual practice I found it would not work. The observers would not make a distinction between R., S.R., & W. R.. Nor between W. R. and W. V. and so I am fain to recommend that S. R. and W. R. be dropped & merely the other four used.

No. 2. I am not satisfied with any way I have yet seen for estimating the number of a species present at a given time & place. Please put your united wisdom to the task as I deem it a very useful factor in the work, if we could only obtain it.

No. 3. had for some years been a pet scheme of mine & I had high hopes of its proving a bonanza, but like so many of the bonanza mines it proved a flat failure.

I have dozens of pages of such records of walses as I called for but I find they are absolutely untrustworthy and useless as a means of determining the real or even the relative abundance of the several species at the various stations. And when I tried the work myself I could not get a record in a half dozen trials that was not very deceiving.

Hence I can not advise that any more such records be collected.

No. 4. You will notice I have marked off the nesting, Eggs, and young. I am possibly heterodox in my opinion, but experience has taught me that the work of

the student of migration ends when mating is fairly under way. I do not mean to decry the gathering of all the information possible on those subjects, but they belong to Oology and not to Migration. I had last year several ardent oölogists among the observers, and as soon as the eggs began to appear, they lost sight of migration and filled their letters with accounts of the nests & eggs they had collected. Hence if I called for notes on those subjects I should do so after making it clear that they were a separate subject & had no bearing whatever on the subject of migration. If the subject of geographical distribution

2
during the summer is taken up, then those same items become prominent & important.

No. 5. I should make this much more prominent and give a list of 15-30 species for which a specially thorough study should be made. I have sent to Ridgway for the names of the 19 species which the Signal Observers studied years ago and it may be well to use the same ones again.

No. 6. The subject of how much weather report to try to get from observers has bothered me more than any other thing. The tendency of the observers is either to fill with bird notes & say not a word on the weather, or to fill with an accurate weather report &

omit the bird notes. The happy medium has been obtained by only one observer. Mr. Widmann of St. Louis. I think we better depend almost exclusively on the Signal Service Reports for our weather and not try to get much from the observers.

No. 7. I should also make a strong point of having the observers accustom themselves to a daily record, either on the spot or soon afterwards, of the observations they make.

No. 8. Prof. Baird writes me he will donate ^{me} 25 copies for the use of observers not already supplied.

No. 9. The reports will vary much according to latitude; the southern observers doing most of their work from Jan. to Apr. & the Northern from April to June. But I should call for letters, not posters

and call for them often.

Now a few words in regard to methods by which I have hitherto carried on my work.

Leaving out of account the work of 1882, which was entirely preparatory and we will begin with 1883. In the fall of 1882 I wrote the call for volunteers which appeared in the Bulletin, Forest & Stream, Am. Field &c. and I also had it published in a number of the most widely circulated newspapers of the Valley. I received some answers from that source. I next took Cassin's Scientists Directory and wrote personally to everyone living in the Valley who was marked as an ornithologist. From many I received no ans. Many of the letters were returned as uncalled for, and still more, while

expressing sympathy & good wishes for the work. pleaded lack of time to assist; and indeed time is the element most necessary to any degree of fulness of the notes.

The race for the almighty dollar, leaves to very few, the time which must be spent in watching birds if the notes are to be of much value. Last spring I spent an average of nearly three hours a day in the field ~~to say no~~ from Apr. 1. to June 25. to say nothing of the evening hours of work & writing and the four months of solid work I had put ~~into~~ previously into the forming of the corps of observers. In the field, Mr. Widmann spent even more time, but

he had almost nothing at home to do, while I was both Principal & Supt. of a school of 450 pupils. It is no wonder that I was used up when vacation came & that it took the whole summer to get rested.

In the collection of the notes, it has been my experience, that I have had to write a page for about every page I received.

I received last year about fifteen hundred pages of letters and wrote I think full twelve hundred.

So you see the manual labor and postage are both considerable.

Now a little on next year's work. As I wrote in my other letter I am practically unfamiliar with the migration of the birds both in the extreme east &

the extreme west of the U.S. But
in the Miss. Valley I am at home.

I am ready to take for my share
of the work the oversight of
Wis. Northern Mich. Minn.
Manitoba. Dak. Iowa. Ill.
Kan. Mo. Western Tenn.

Miss. Ark. La. and Tex,
with of course Ind. & Tex. though
I doubt if another ornithologist
can be found in the Territory.

I would suggest the the
territory east be divided into two
divisions; one of which shall
begin at the southern end of
Florida & take about two
states wide up to the Strait of
Mackinaw and the other
from the western boundary
of Penn. the whole of the
Middle & Eastern States &
Canada, or this second part
could be divided by the eastern

line of N. Y. into two

I am extremely anxious that
the migration of birds through
Florida & along the coast of
Alabama should be carefully
studied to determine whether
birds pass from the West Indies
to Florida & spread both N.W.
& N.E. from there or whether
they pass directly from the
W. I. & S. Am. to the
coast of Alabama & La. &
Miss. Also the migration
among the mountains between
Florida & Michigan will
present a very complex
problem, which will be both
difficult & fascinating to the
fortunate ornithologist who
can unravel the tangled
skein of notes which he
would receive from his
stations.

West of the Miss. Valley I doubt if much or anything can be done next year. The Country is immense & the ornithologists few. If anything is done, tho' I hardly think it advisable to attempt it, the country would naturally divide itself into three divisions i.e. 1. Eastern Slope of Rocky Mountains. 2. Highlands of the Colorado Plateau & Great Basin & 3. California, Oregon & Wash. Ter. In No. 3. there may possibly be something done.

I would suggest that the ball be started rolling immediately, by inserting in all the leading papers of the

U.S. a call for volunteers, similar to that I published last year, but shorter, merely stating that the N. A. U. has undertaken the work, of which give a brief sketch, and we are in need of all the observers we can get & call on newspapers to copy it.

Then while that is going the rounds a circular should be prepared stating fully just what it is desired that the observers do & report. This circular should give the divisions of the U.S. and the headquarters of each division, with a request that each observer report to the ~~senior~~ Supt. of his division.

The other matters of ~~report~~ observers reporting to those

north of them, what birds to look for, the various reports of divisions to each other & the final publication of results can well be left to the future. But the two things I mentioned should be done at once.

Will the Union have any funds ~~from~~ which the printing & stationery bills can be paid or must the Supts furnish their own, as I have had to do in past years.

The "Call" should be published in at least one hundred & fifty papers, while of the circulars the Miss. Valley will need about a hundred & seventy-five and the other divisions, more or less according to the industry of their Supts.

I am in hopes we can induce the Signal Service... to

ask their observers to note & report the ~~observance~~ occurrence of certain common familiar birds as was done years ago. It would be a great help.

There are many subjects yet to be spoken of, but this letter has already reached an unusual length. Please let me know immediately how thoroughly you expect to go into the work next spring in the Eastern U.S. & who your Supts will be.

I had expected to commence my campaign about Dec. 1, with the newspaper notices, but the circulars need not be distributed until about New Year, while on the other hand the sooner they are out the better.

Can you give me any other ways of getting at the address of ornithologists in the Miss.

Valley. Of course it will be expected
that a "call" will be inserted in
the Jan. number of the "New
Bulletin".

Yours resp.,
W. W. Cooke!

Please return to C. W. M.
with comments as
soon as practicable -

BIRD MIGRATION IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

INSTRUCTIONS TO OBSERVERS.

JEFFERSON, WISCONSIN, DECEMBER 20TH, 1882.

DEAR SIR :

No 1. As you have so kindly offered to aid in the work, I send you this circular. For the sake of uniformity in the observations on the migrations of birds, that thereby their value may be increased, the following suggestions are made. (It is thought best to divide the birds found at each station into the following classes: 1st. Those that remain at the station all the year in about the same numbers, these will be called resident (R). 2nd. Those that are present all the year, but much more numerous in summer than in winter, called semi-resident (S R). 3rd. Those that are present all the year, but more numerous in winter than in summer, called winter residents (W R). 4th. Those that breed at the station but do not stay during the winter called summer sojourners (S S). 5th. Those that come down from the north to visit during the winter and leave to return in the spring called winter visitants (W V). 6th. Those that are found only as they pass through during the spring and fall migrations, called transient visitors (T V).)

No 2. It is desired that the principal part of the work this winter, be the study of the habits and food of the (R), (W R) and (W V). Please make a list as full and accurate as possible of all the birds of your locality that belong to each of these classes. A distinction will be made between those that are actually observed this winter and those that are usually found or are supposed to be present. An approximation is desired of the number of individuals present of each species. (This may be variously estimated as the number of individuals or flocks with their size seen in the course of a walk on a pleasant day divided by the number of miles travelled, or as the number of individuals or flocks seen during a day, or of the rarer birds the number seen in the course of a week, month, or the winter. For the commoner species the number seen during a walk is the best way. As spring approaches many changes in plumage and song can be noted, and the dates recorded.)

No 3. On the first day of February 1883, and on the first day of each month after that to the first day of June, or as near as possible to the first of the month, it is desired that each observer take a walk or ride, a walk is preferable, of which a complete record will be kept showing the following particulars: Time of day, temperature, direction and force of wind, weather, the number of each species of bird observed, the number of birds seen but not certainly recognized, the distance travelled, and the character of the country passed over.

No 4. (The work of the spring and summer will be of the (R) to note mating M, nesting N, eggs E, and young Y, with the dates of each. Of the (S R) the date of the first arrival from the south F, date when the greater part or bulk arrived B, when they were the most numerous or height of the season H, and the M, N, E and Y. Of the (W R) note date of departure of the first for the north F D, departure of bulk B D, with the M, N, E and Y. Of the (W V) note the F D, B D, and of the last one seen L. Of the (S S) note F, B, H, B D, M, N, E and Y. Of the (T V) note F, B, H, B D, and L. These are the abbreviations I use, observers can adopt them or not as they please.) Always give the number of individuals and the sex if possible, of the F's. Where the sexes arrive at different times give an F for each. An estimation of the number of individuals or flocks of each species when at the height of the season, is especially desirable. (The commonest birds, such as the Robin, Cat Bird, Brown Thrasher, Bluebird, &c., are ones to be most closely watched.) A record of wind, weather and temperature is desired. A general record may be kept during the latter part of the winter, but from the beginning of spring, the fuller the record the better.) No 5.

No 7. (The best way of keeping the notes is to have a small book, to be carried all the time, with a page for each species that is likely to be seen, and in which the record can be made at the time of observation.) (If possible the observer should have access to a copy of the latest Smithsonian Catalogue of Birds and use those names.) Latin names are usually better than English, since they are less likely to be misunderstood, especially is this true of water birds, for many species among them, bear the same English name. Nevertheless as English names are for most people easier to use, they can be employed, and if any doubt arises as to what bird is meant, special inquiry will be made. If the Smithsonian numbers are used they will save time and space and will be perfectly understood. No 8.

No 9. (Observers will please make reports January 20, February 5, February 20 and as often thereafter as material for a letter or a postal accumulates, at least once a week.) The records for the first day of the month will please be sent as soon as possible after they are taken.

Of course it is not expected that each observer will be able to carry out these instructions to the letter. Few will be able to spare the necessary time, but it is hoped that by using these suggestions as the plan and outline of the work, much better results will be obtained than if each took the observations according to his own method however good that method might be.

Hoping and expecting success to crown our efforts in this our joint undertaking, I remain,

Yours Respectfully,

W. W. COOKE.

P.S. When you come to distribute the
numbers, please make a hundred
and fifty for me.

Laddo. Ind. Ter.

Dec. 24. 1883.

C. H. Merriam, M.L.

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 19th inst
came to hand this noon and I
hasten to reply as it is now
already late for the work to
~~commence~~.

Your schedule leaves
nothing to be desired further.

I would merely suggest that
it be accompanied with a
printed invitation (either incor-
porated in the text or on a
separate sheet) to the
recipient to aid us and to
return answer whether or
not he will.

My reason for the last clause

is this, if they do reply they can hardly fail to send some notes, but unless they are actually asked to answer my experience is that many will never pay any attention to the invitation to observe.

In regard to the work laid down for superintendents, I would say that it will not be possible to prepare anything worth presenting, in time to present it to the Union at its next annual meeting.

It will not be ^{before Sept. 1} possible to get the last answers from observers in reply to the many questions which will necessarily arise when the final consolidation of the reports comes to be made.

And after that is done the work of the superintendent is but just commenced. I began

nearly a month ago getting my blanks ready for reporting the results (not the observations) and from all present prospects it will make ^{a volume} a third as large as "Birds of the Northwest". I can not possibly make such a report before the fall of 1885.

I could of course make a hurried synopsis, in time for the next meeting, but it would neither be satisfactory to myself nor to you. The speed of migration can be calculated immediately and sent in about the middle of August.

The addition to the text I would suggest would be to insist strongly on a determination whether the first one seen of each species was a straggler or a normal first.

You say nothing about printing

is this, if they do reply they can hardly fail to send some notes, but unless they are actually asked to answer my experience is that many will never pay any attention to the invitation to observe.

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I could of course make a hurried synopsis, in time for the next meeting, but it would neither be satisfactory to myself nor to you. The speed of migration can be calculated immediately and sent in about the middle of August.

The addition to the text I would suggest would be to insist strongly on a determination whether the first one seen of each species was a straggler or a normal first.

You say nothing about printing

for observe
any call in the newspaper press
of the country. If you do expect
to do so, you could probably get
nothing better than all of the
schedule except the work of
the superintendents & possibly
that might be inserted. Please
let me know by return mail your
plans in regard to publishing
in newspapers.

My work in the Miss. Valley I began
about two weeks ago, but have
not yet got it fairly underway.

Mr. Widmann would make
a good superintendent, but I
don't think you could get him
to serve.

Yours resp.

W. W. Cooke.

P.S. When you come to distribute the
numbers, please reserve a hundred
and fifty for me.

Respectfully,
Yours truly,
E. H. Merriam, M.D.

Dec. 24, 1883.

E. H. Merriam, M.D.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 19th inst.

came to hand this morn and I

hasten to reply as it is now

already late for the work to

be commenced.

Yours respectfully,
E. H. Merriam

Caddo, Ind. Ter.

Jan. 14. 1884.

C. Hart. Merriam. M.D.,
Locust Grove. N.Y.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 10th inst. came this noon. I'm rejoiced to hear that the circulars will soon be forthcoming. I have had many applications for them already in answer to my request in Jan. 10. & I suppose you have had a like experience.

In regard to getting notices in the newspapers, I suppose you will send circulars to the principal papers of the country, & if you will let me know to which you have sent, I can then look over my territory and

endeavor to fill up the blank spots
by stirring up the local press.

I am sorry to say I have as
yet been unable to hit on a
scheme of tabulating the notes
which at all suits my ideas.

Last year I wrote the names of all
the birds I thought would be
seen by the observers, on sheets
of foolscap, allowing 16 lines
of blank space to each of the
common birds & from that to
the whole making a volume of some 90 pages.
four lines to a rare avis.

When a letter was received, each
of the notes was entered under the
proper name. I received several
letters from Mr. Widmann, whose
entry required over three hours
steady ~~writing~~ work. The plan is
not satisfactory but worked fairly
well last year. In only about
a dozen cases did I find I
needed more space.

Mr. Cooper suggested to me a few
days ago that I try the plan he
used in his work on California
birds. I wrote for full particulars
but have not yet received an answer.
I am in hopes I can manage ~~it~~
in some way to use skeleton maps,
but have not yet worked out a
feasible plan. Have you, or
any of the Supts. hit on a good
plan? If so, I should be
thankful to receive it.

If each of my observers furnishes
me with a tithe of the material, I am
myself collecting, I shall be overwhelmed.
My journal for the last ~~three~~ ^{two} months,
when bird life is comparatively
quiet, fills over thirty pages of foolscap.

I find I shall be unable to use
the numbers of last year for the
same stations again. One of the
observers is dead. two or three
cannot help next spring.

while from as many more, I have been
unable to get any answer. I have
therefore used entirely new numbers
on the following plan. The
fundamental idea is this; the
stations in each state must have
consecutive numbers, and the
more regularly these numbers
progress from ~~north to south~~,
south to north, the easier it is
for the Supt. to carry them in mind,
to enter the reports & * for the
general public to understand
the printed results. Acting on
this principle which is certainly
correct & for the violation of which,
in a few cases, last year
considerable fault has been found.
I parceled out ten numbers to
each of my fifteen states

beginning with Texas and ending
with Manitoba. Now as the
observers send in their names
I assign ~~to each~~ ^{them} such numbers
of the ten as will make the
numbers of the stations in each
state progress from south to
north. Thus, for example, the
ten numbers from 80-89 were
assigned to Iowa. The first name
received was from Morning Sun,
which being a little south of the
middle of the state was given
the number (83). Next came
Dubuque in the N.E. part & it
received no. (87). Burlington
in the S. came next and received
(81) Des Moines & Iowa City
came in the same mail &
got (84) & (85). &c.

Now when in a published report a number is used, the reader, without looking up the exact spot, can judge pretty nearly its latitude, if he knows which set of ten numbers have been given to a certain state, the number will show him in what part of the state, north & south, the station is to be found. I have learned by experience that some such plan must be adopted or the result will be utter confusion, not only in the mind of the reading public, but also in my own.

Of course according to this method there will be unoccupied numbers, but this, far from being an impediment, is a necessity. New observers will be constantly coming in from now until migration is ended, so that if the numbers were

assigned in any other way, either a constant change would be required or else stations from the same state would have widely scattered numbers. Even allowing thus carefully for future observers to send their names, some changes in numbers will have to be made, so that the permanent numbers can not be assigned before Mch. 15.

In addition to publishing calls in newspapers, I have found it necessary to do a good deal of personal application by letter to those whom I knew to be ornithologists, never forgetting to also ask them to send the addresses of other bird lovers.

I have done a great deal of such work this winter and have at present some thirty or forty letters not yet heard from

Please send me Dagoberto,
present address: Myrtle & 2nd
at Bayview. Tex. was returned
undelivered

probably one half of which will
result in favorable answers. As
soon as a few more names come
in I will send you the list
with the provisional numbers
I have at present assigned.

The first letter I sent to you,
has returned via the dead
letter office. I enclose the
envelope & fail to see any
reason why you should
not have received it.

When will Jan. Bulletin
appear?

Sincerely yours

W. W. Cooke.

probably number of which will
result in a considerable number. The
seen as a good many names come
in. I will send you the list
with the Personal numbers
I have at Princeton.
The first letter I sent to you,
was returned via the bank
letter office. I enclose the
reason why you should
not fail to see my

Please send me Ragsdale's
present address. My letter to him
at Gainesville, Tex., was returned
undelivered.

Caddo. Ind. Terr.
Feb. 4. 1881.

Dear Sir,

I am still alive although it is some time since I wrote to Locust Grove. I return the proof of letter head. It is correct so far as I can see and will make a very neat appearance. Am glad you have sent to so many of the Southern papers and hope I shall receive a large number of new observers from that region. Just received today a new one from Miss. in answer to a letter I sent awhile ago. The circulars were received & three fourths of them have already been distributed over the Miss. Valley.

You were right in your
surmise that I was collecting
more notes than those which ~~bear~~
directly on migration — indeed
when you call, in the circular, for
notes on the breeding areas, you
pass entirely beyond the scope
of the committee on migration. Not
that I don't think it all right to
ask for such notes on the breeding
of the species as I consider that
a very important part of the
work. But of course I
know enough to draw the line
between notes bearing on migration
and extraneous matter and
whatever kind of records you
get from the other supts I
will send the same that
all may be uniform. As
to being overwhelmed by the
notes I am collecting, I can
get plenty of help if I find

I can not do it alone, but I have
no fear of such a result, as I
have had the work to do before
& know pretty nearly how much
I am undertaking.

Yours resp.

W. W. Cooke.

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, ¹Sept.

American Ornithologists' Union.

Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Caddo, Ind. Ter., Feb. 28 1884.

Dr. C. H. Merriam

Locust Grove, N. Y.

Dear Sir,

I managed to
mail my photo to you to-day
but I could not get time to
write until now. I have been
putting in four hours a day on
bird work for some time past,
and just about keep even with my
work. Beginning Mch. 10, when
I number the stations & begin the
work of elaborating the material
already sent & which will come
in on Mch. 1. the time will
have to be increased to six
hours a day. I should

Service Station, by post, when
If you can get time to write it out, I would
like pretty soon to have the particulars of the
plan you spoke of for tabulating the reports

like to have your photo in exchange.
Have you received Bulletin No 1,
of the Ridgway Com. Club. If
not I will send you one.

About presenting my name for
election as active member, I had
been expecting to write to you
on the subject as soon as I could
find time. I would like to be
an active member, and would be
very grateful to you for any efforts
you may make in my behalf.

Do you think it would help
matters if I were to write to each
member of the Council, making
application?

How are the other Dupts succeeding
in obtaining observers? I am
very much disappointed in
that portion of my work, I have
so far only twice as many as I
had last year & some of them
are not of much account.

I have been working up the

daily press & I must say the results are rather discouraging. You wrote me you had sent to about 50 papers in Miss. La. & Tex. I wrote to 30 more, and from those eighty papers, I have received not a single observer. I confess I can't understand it! Most of my observers I have obtained by personal letters to them. I received the letters you sent from Mr. Stiles & from Manitoba. Mr. Stiles lives eight miles from my last year's home in Wis.

Have you tried to get any reports from the Signal Service Stations, or so, what success?

If you can get time to write it out, I would like pretty soon to have the particulars of the plan you spoke of for tabulating the reports

like to have your vote in exchange. Have you received Bulletin No. 1 of the Ridgway Orn. Club? If not I will send you one. About presenting my name for election as active member, I had been expecting to write to you on the subject as soon as I could find time. I would like to be an active member, and would be very grateful to you for any efforts you may make in my behalf. Do you think it would help matters if I were to write to each member of the Council, making application? How are the other Duple's succeeding in obtaining observers? I am very much disappointed in that portion of my work, I have so far only twice as many as I had last year & some of them are not of much account. I have been working up the

I think I can do the work more easily & satisfactorily
if I write up the reports as soon as received & thus
keep ~~asp~~ with my work, so that it will not
take so long to make out the report to you after
the season's work is over. I think now that the
report will be ready by Aug. 20, but it may
be Sept. 1. But I shall have to work almost night
and day during July to get it out by that time.
The numbers I shall give out Mch. 10, & all that
come after that you can number consecutively,
just as you do from the other districts.

To what papers have you sent in Manitoba?
What is the exact date of the next meeting of the A.M.M.
& will it be held in New York? Yours truly
W. W. Cooke.

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Supt.

American Ornithologists' Union.

Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Red Rock Caddo, Ind. Ter., July 16 1884

Dr. C. H. Merriam.

Locust Grove, N. Y.

Dear Sir.

After a month's illness,
I am just beginning to do a few
minutes work a day once more.

I find my bird work way way
behind, and the stack of letters to be
answered is appalling.

How is the work as a whole getting
on? Of course migration ended long
ago. Do you know anything about
the success the Dufts have had in
collecting material, and the nature of
the material collected. How many
observers are there in the middle or
eastern states like Mr. Widmann
and Prof. Lantz, who see all the
birds and make full records?

Of my 157 observers, about 140
have made reports more or less full

generally less. There are really less than thirty ornithologists in the whole Miss. Valley, while some of the best & most accurate, like Mr. Agerstorg of Vermillion Dak. an Assoc. member of the A. O. U. know nothing whatever of migrations. They have shot birds & made skins, & put down the dates, but to tell whether they were the first or the last of the kind is beyond them.

The bulk of my notes are purely amateur & worth I think as much as the paper they are written on, but precious little more.

Have you matured any plan as yet for the compiling of the notes?

My observers have sent in over 13000 notes & the compiling is a work of enormous labor. The worst of it is

I am afraid the malarial fever from which I have been suffering will not leave me for two months yet until cool weather comes.

Yesterday was 108° in the shade with a "whole house & a porch between the mercury & the sun."

In such weather it is almost impossible to gain strength. I can hardly keep what little I have.

Did you find that the reports from the lighthouses, came in such shape that they will be of any real value in denoting, time, rate, volume of migration, or will the reports have to exist, as just interesting facts which can not be collated. Do you think you can connect them satisfactorily with the reports of the neighboring land stations.

My observers in N. Dak. & Manitoba have hardly sent in half their notes, but I guess they will come long before I shall be ready to use them.

Please let me hear from you of the present status of the work. Thanks for your list of the ~~the~~ Manitoba stations.

Yours truly
W. W. Cooke

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Supt.

American Ornithologists' Union.

Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Red Rock ~~Crook~~, Ind. Ter., Aug. 13 1884,

Mr. C. H. Merriam.

Locust Grove, N. Y.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 8th came this afternoon, and I will take the few spare minutes I happen to have now to answer it. Do you wish the notes on the five species as they were contributed by the observers, or after they have been "written up"? Some of the species you mention have already been treated in preparing the final report, and the other will be all done in about ten days. I was so delayed by my sickness that Prof. Lantz and Mr. Udman are both helping and we are getting along pretty fast. The Robin after it is written up would fill three and a half pages of the Auk.

The matter so far written for the report amounts to about seventy five pages the size of the Auk, and the work is only about a quarter done. The preparatory work was very great and was only completed August 1.

Last spring Mr. Widmann, my wife & myself put our heads together and after a month's study brought forth a plan of work which we deem successful. It was one in which time was counted as an object, and the making of the paraphernalia for carrying out required a great deal of work both with pen, paste pot & sewing machine. Now that the whole thing is done, in running order, and in actual use, it is found to work splendidly, and indeed for birds which have a large number of notes, like the Robin with a hundred and thirty separate notes, the only way by which any satisfactory notes

~~can~~ results can be obtained with only copying the notes once.

No matter whether ^{it is} winter habits, rate of migration, time of migration, migration east of the Miss. compared with that on the plains, whatever subject you wish to study you can arrange the notes to suit your taste or object, without copying them.

If you would like the full details of the plan I will send them to you, but I am afraid it is too late for you to use them this year. I would have spoken of the plan sooner, but I could not tell how it was going to work until last week when I began to actually use it.

Yours truly

W. W. Cooke.

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Supt.

American Ornithologists' Union.
Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Moorhead, Minn.

~~Caddo, Ind. Ter.~~

Nov. 20 1884.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam.

Locust Grove, N.Y.

Dear Sir.

Please excuse

me for not answering your letters sooner, but I have been very busy preparing some illustrated lectures on Chemistry for the town people and it has taken all my spare time.

In answer I would say that I have sent you I believe all the names I have unless possibly I may not have sent G. W. Nash. Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. and

U. S. Grant, Minneapolis, Minn., changed to there from Des Moines, Ia. On the next page I give a list of the first 20 observers. You will notice I do not include my own name

and it is true that my own notes on migration were almost nil. After the first of March, I had to put away the gun and spend all my spare time night & day with the pen.

1. C. Widmann. St. Louis. Mo., of course.
2. Prof. H. E. Lantz. Manhattan, Kans.
He was not so good this year as last.
3. Mr. J. C. Hvoslef. Lauesboro. Minn.
Had he the time to spare he would make a second Widmann.
4. Wm Lloyd. San Angela. Tex.
Has had years of experience and is very reliable.
5. G. H. Raysdale. Gainesville. Tex.
So very correct in his identifications, but was in poor health, and pressed for time, so that he did not do himself justice. Probably the best taxidermist among the observers, unless he is surpassed by Coale or Butler.
6. Thos. Miller. Heron Lake. Minn.
According to the value of the notes he should come in here. He is a new hand at American birds and is not yet perfectly reliable, but is splendidly situated for water birds and gave more notes on them than did any other observer.

7. H. A. Kline. Polo. Ill.

Has good eyes, and sends many notes, but needs constant watching as he is full of mistakes. He has left the Miss. Valley and moved to Florida.

8. John A. Balmer. Hannville. Ill.
Possibly should be rated even higher than this. I much undervalued him at first, but the more I know of him, the greater is my faith.

9. Mr. G. S. Agersborg. Vermillion. Dak.
Is reliable, but did not send so many notes as I had been led to expect, but furnished a valuable list of over 220 species of birds he had taken in S. E. Dakota.

10. J. W. Preston. Newton. Ia. } Are young, but
11. C. R. Keyes. Des Moines. Ia. } enthusiastic
12. U. S. Grant. " " " } and made of
good stuff.

13. Mrs. M. Musick. Mt. Carmel. Mo.
Probably the best lady ornithologist in the Mississippi Valley.

14. Prof. C. J. Reed. Burlington. Ia.
I am in doubt on this man. I am not acquainted with him, and even from his quite full and copious notes am unable to say whether or not he is reliable. I have no reason for thinking he is not, neither any for thinking he is.

13. Mr. L. Watson, Ellis, Kans.,
Good, and if he would set whiskey done
would take high rank.

16. F. W. Powell. Alda, Neb.
Good now, and will be much better, another
year.

17. Vernon Bailey, Elk River, Minn.
Is in a poor country, but did good work.

18. S. W. Willard. West Hepler, Wis.,
did some pretty fair work.

19. H. Nehrling ~~was rather~~ Pierce City, Mo.,
was rather disappointing. He did not do
nearly so well as would be expected
from his excellent work on Texas birds.
His notes are usually behindhand.

20. H. K. Coale, Chicago, Ill.
In ability is of course much higher,
but in value of notes, hardly deserves
even this rank.

In Manitoba, A. J. Small, Oak Point,
and C. W. Nash, Portage La Prairie
are both good, but I fear the second
is not perfectly reliable. He says it is
his first trial of the work.

In the Miss. Valley there are several
others which know birds perfectly, but
have no chance nor time to watch

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Supt.

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American Ornithologists' Union.
Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Caddo, Ind. Dec. 1888
them. Such as Prof. King River Falls
Wis. Mr. F. Kuntz. Burlington, Ia.
Mr. Hatch. Minneapolis. Prof. F. H. Duval,
Lawrence, Kans. and for this year
Mr. Butler of Anna, Ill. must be
classed there, though last year he sent
many good notes.

What has struck me as the most
peculiar notes I have received, are
a few jottings from Hon. C. X. Aldrich
Webster City, Ia. ^{Charles} member of the A. O. U.
If he knows anything about birds, his
letters fail to reveal it. How came he
to be asked to join?

In regard to work for next spring and
the notes to be called for I can only say
that I still believe in what I then
wrote to many of my observers.

"Note the first one seen, and then for
the next few days watch carefully

to see whether any more follow, that is if it is a normal girl, or only an irregular bird, which has gone far ahead of his fellows." I might also add that the attempt to get the observers to do this was a flat failure. They persisted in giving the barn "first" & let the rat take care of itself.

During the latter part of my study of the notes, I have been more and more impressed with the need of an abundance of extraneous matter to aid in the study of the main subject. The notes on snow, ice, insects, frogs &c. I have been so far unable to use, except to tabulate it for future reference, but several things not called for I stand greatly in need of. For weather reports I had full tri-daily reports from all signal stations in the United States & the general daily "Bulletin" besides, I also have nearly two thousand scattering weather notes from the observers

and full access to all the reports of the Iowa State Signal Service, with the director of which, Gen. Heinrichs I am personally acquainted.

Even all this material falls far short of what would be desirable, but is probably full enough for the needs of this year. Another season, I should ask for full weather notes, from every observer & from as many other as possible. But a still more important part of the work, did not occur to me until it was forcibly brought to mind when I came to try to trace out the "bird-waves". You probably noticed in the Q, all my calling for a description of the physical surroundings of each station and a synopsis of the opportunities of observation. I had circulars printed and sent to each observer calling for special information on these points and in reply received much valuable matter which straightened out many troublesome snarls among the notes

But I see now very clearly that I did not call for exact enough nor full enough information on these points. Another year, I should want, a full and minute description of the country the fuller the better. Some such a one as will be found of Jefferson. Wis., in "Bulletin No. 1. of the R. A. Club."

And then for each day of the migration season, just when & where the observer made his observations, or if he was not out at all I should certainly want to know that fact. So that in a given species I can tell whether or not he had a fair chance of seeing it, if it were present.

I am a thorough believer in bird waves and yet the notes this year came in such shape that it was possible to trace but one bird wave during the whole season.

I sat down one day and examined 1500 records, in which I felt sure there was the record of two large waves, but I could not pick them out. I thereupon sent the whole batch to Mr. Widmann, but he was also forced to give it up.

It was for this particular branch

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Sept.

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American Ornithologists' Union.

Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Cadillac, Ind. Ter., 1888

of the study that I hoped, much from the lighthouses and light ships, as I see by the English reports that they have been able to do splendid work in that direction from their lightships. I collected a few notes from light towers in the inland towns in my district, but not enough to be of any value.

Returning to the first question again, I should say that what we wanted to find out principally is the night on which the species moved. So that to me the note that the numbers of a given species increased last night, is just as valuable as to be more particular and say (which I am strongly inclined to believe was a fact eight or nine times out of ten) "The bulk came last night." There are not more than three or four persons in

the Miss Valley who are qualified or know enough of migration to say authoritatively the bulk came on such a date, or who can get it, exactly right once out of three times.

I would even go farther and say that to me a simple statement that some individuals of the species came last night is worth more than than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the "B.A."s of last spring, which, in many cases at least, were arrived at in this way. The observer counts back, when he finds a species numerous, and judges that the B.A. came such a date. Many times on looking up the weather I find that on that particular night, the weather was so unfavorable that it is probable no migration whatever took place.

B.A. + B.H. are of course matters of judgment, being in that respect different from F. + L. + the large majority of the observers are not qualified to judge in such matters. You will find very much of this same idea in Q + Q. for June

1884. p. 65.

In regard to your first postal concerning my report, I have delayed an answer until I should hear from Mr. Widmann.

Last spring he offered to bear the expenses of publishing it as soon as it was written. He has put it off from time to time suggesting improvements, and additions, until now as it is nearing completion, after spending an immense amount of time, energy and considerable of my own cash upon it, I received last night the following answer from him.

"You can tell Mr. Merriam that I had volunteered to do the printing, but that I was afraid now, you had made the report so voluminous that the cost of publishing might exceed the budget." So I here I am, at a dead standstill. The report is not quite done owing

to the delay of Mr. Widmann to furnish the weather maps he promised, and one which he is now at work. After I receive them it will take me about three weeks to write up the text to accompany them, and then the report is completed.

It treats of the following particulars.

History of the origin & progress of the work.

List of observers & stations.

Tabulated statement of contemporaneous phenomena, snow, ice, frosts, flowers, &c.

Tracing & timing of the different bird-waves, to which is to be added the yet unwritten part, giving the nights on which migration took place in the different parts of the Miss. Valley with the species, which were then migrating, & also the dates of the periods of non migration.

A short article on speed of migration one half of which is to appear in December A. & C.

The report proper, giving the wintering breeding area and times of migration for

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Sept.

American Ornithologists' Union.

Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Caddo, Ind. Ter.,

188

each species noted by the observers.

This is the part whose volume has caused Mr. W. to back out. It comprises about four hundred pages of foolscap, and treats of three hundred and eighty-three (383) species. This part was written with special reference to the observers, being intended as a guide by which they could tell ~~when to~~ what birds to expect & when to expect them. The need of such a book having been evinced by the reports of nearly two thirds of the observers, and by its use they would be able to ~~themselves~~ correct a large proportion of the mistakes into which they have fallen.

The report ends with a supplementary

list of 126 species, which have been known to occur within the Miss. Valley but were not seen by the observers, giving their habitat and place of occurrence within our limits, thus raising the birds of the Miss. Valley to $383 + 126 = 509$ species which is very nearly the full number. I think there are probably about 20 which I have overlooked.

In making the report I have used not only all the notes of the observers, but have read over all that has been written on birds for the last fifteen years. and on doubtful points have made frequent use of Ridgway, Coues & Allen, so that I have faith to believe the report is pretty free from errors.

Such being the character of the report the question arises. Having spent such an unlimited amount of time & care upon it, I am unwilling that it should be pulled to pieces and published in company with & indistinguishable

from the other reports. I therefore think the best plan will be to do nothing with it at present, but wait for future developments.

There have already appeared in Q. R. L. the notes on eleven species, besides the five sent to you so that you now have sixteen species on hand. The five species alone would be as much as could be crowded in the January Auk, but if there are any other species, whose notes you would like to study I will copy them and send in either general form as I sent the other five, or in tabulated form.

Now if you have had patience to wade through all these pages I will ask you to let me hear from you, and close.

Yours truly.

W. W. Cooke.

Recd. Nov. 27, 1884.

Mississippi Valley and Manitoba.

Prof. W. W. COOKE, Supt.

American Ornithologists' Union.
Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

Mooshead, Minn.
~~Caddo, Ind. Ter.~~, Dec. 14 1884.

Dr. C. H. Merriam.

Locust Grove, N. Y.

Dear Sir.

For some time I have been expecting some notice from you of when you would have the circulars ready to send out for next spring's work. For the southern observers they cannot be distributed too soon. It would be well for them if they could begin their work on Jan. 1.

Will you please let me know how extensive a circular you expect to print this year, and whether or not the Committee will have enough cash this year to print blank reports for weather notes observations

How about stationery? Will that be again furnished. Or are all these things dependent on an appropriation from Congress.

Please let me know as soon as possible the present status of affairs in the migration line.

Yours truly,

W. W. Cooke.

Since I wrote you last I have had another letter from Mr. Widmann, in which he says he is willing to devote so much cash to the publication of the report & as I shall be able to procure myself all that is needed above that amount the probability is that the report will be published about Feb. 1.

My vote for place of next meeting is Chicago first & St. Louis, second.

and Dec. 19, 1854

of observations 145 of which 61 are new ones. Please drop me a card as soon as you reach home.

Yours truly,
W. W. Cooke.

5/Ans'd. May 11/86. C.W.M.
American Ornithologists' Union.

MIGRATION IN THE

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY AND MANITOBA.

W. W. COOKE, Sup't.

Moorhead, Minn., April 1 1885.

Mr. C. H. Merriam.

Locust Grove. N. Y.

Dear Sir.

On your arrival home from your journey, you will undoubtedly have your hands full to overflowing, but allow me please to still further increase the amount.

If there are any circulars left, will you please send me seventy five. I sent to your brother for some, but those he was so kind as to send me were for 1884.

I am now making a special study of migration last year from March 19 to 28 and from May 4 to 13, all inclusive. Will you please send me a copy of all Lighthouse reports from my district during these periods.

What has Congress done about the appropriation? What is the present financial state of the A. O. U. As I wrote you just before you left. Mr. Widmann finally decided not to bear the expense of publishing the report of the Miss. Valley.

In what shape do you want the notes of last year for permanent file in your office. I wrote you three months ago, and your brother said he forwarded to the letter to you, offering to pay half the expense. of blanks like those in use this year, upon which to have the observe send copies of their last year's notes. Mr. Foster quotes prices at \$13²⁵ for 500 schedules & envelopes.

There certainly would be little use in filing the letters in their present form, No one could ever afford to hunt over them to find any single item they were after.

How is the work progressing in the other districts. I doubt if I shall be able to make any better showing this year than last. Present number

American Ornithologists' Union,

-----MIGRATION IN THE-----

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY AND MANITOBA.

W. W. COOKE, Sup't.

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Moorhead, Minn., May 26 1885

Mr. C. Hart Merriam.

Locust Grove. N.Y.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of May 12 came twelve hours after I had sent to Q. & Q. the last batch of notes on last year's migration, in the study of which I wanted the reports from the Lighthouses, so you need not go to the trouble of sending those reports.

The first part of the work was published in May Q. & Q. and I want your fullest & freest criticism on that article. It is merely an experiment and on its success or failure depends something of the method to be used in writing the report on this year's migration. I have hardly put any real thought on the matter, but it

has occurred to me that possibly it might be better to take about thirty of the commonest species and treat them thoroughly & elaborately, than to take four hundred and say a little about each as I did last year.

What methods did the other Supt. use in making up their reports? I have seen nothing in any of the papers to give me the slightest clue to the plan of their reports. Have they tried to make it complete for their district or just the species noted during the single migration by the observers. Have they tried to use all the notes sent or selected the best or treated all the species on which notes were contributed or selected some of the best known.

Since the "Prelim. Report" was published in which 509 species are credited to the Miss. Valley both the observers & myself have been busy and have added more than forty species, raising the total number to about 550, divided into 426 noted

American Ornithologists' Union,

* ————— MIGRATION IN THE ————— *

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Moorhead, Minn., 188.....

by the observers and about 125 in the appendix. In that same "Prelim." there is a queer typographical error at the foot of page 58. The next to the last line reads in my return copy "Nor do we have to hunt for records" of this advance" but it may be my fault in copying. I think it better be changed in the errata.

I don't know yet how much time I can put on the report for this year, and I shall be too cramped any way to undertake to get the last year's work on schedules, so we will let that matter drop.

Have you any idea yet when the publishing of last year's reports will be begun? It would be a little handier if that could be got out of the way

before active work is commenced on this year's report.

So far as I can see at present writing and before the bulk of the reports have come in, the work this year will not begin to be so good & thorough as last year. Having but the single report to make at the end of the season the observers have had no occasion to report their progress, or in fact to have much of any communication with me since the season began, and I could not tell which ones needed to be urged or encouraged to their work.

The few who have sent in reports, show a very low grade of work, with the single exception of Mr. Wm Lloyd at San Angela Tex. whose report came yesterday; he has done splendid work.

Could I have had twenty dollars more to put into the work I could have bettered it nearly fifty percent, but even the forty odd dollars I have spent ~~the~~ so far this spring has

American Ornithologists' Union,

* ———— MIGRATION IN THE ———— *

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"pinched" considerable, and it will take between fifteen & twenty dollars more to finish it.

At what time is the next meeting of the A.O.U. to be and where. Did you mean that those twenty names which I sent you last fall were to be proposed for Associate Members this year. Several of them have asked me this spring to recommend them for membership & I wrote them that I already had done so.

Have you any idea of the number of observers in the other districts this year? My number has increased but little, and now numbers 161, of whom over 60 are new ones. There were about 40 of last year's observers from whom I could get no word

at all this year. The 60 new ones have not been obtained without some use of the pen. My letter book shows 910 pieces of mail sent since Jan. 1. of which about five hundred were letters.

If I should happen to be on the Lakes this summer, what would be the best place to stop off from Lake Erie or the St. Lawrence to go to Locust Grove. What time during July or August will you be there? How far is it from Lake Erie, or the beginning of the St. Lawrence.

Is there any particular form in which you would like the whole or any part of the report for this year.

Yours truly,
W. W. Cooke.

American Ornithologists' Union,

MIGRATION IN THE

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY AND MANITOBA.

W. W. COOKE, Sup't.

Moorhead, Minn., June 9 1885

Mr. C. H. Merriam.
Locust Grove, N. Y.
Dear Sir.

Your favor of the 6th came to-day. I am very sorry I shall not be able to meet you in Locust Grove, as I had many things to talk about which I thought we could arrange better personally than by letter. The principal thing I wished to speak of was to make arrangements for giving up my part of the work on migration. My reasons are as follows. I have devoted all the time that I could get or make for the last six years to birds, concentrating all my energies on the single subject

of migration, and what is there to show for it - just nothing. So far as I can see I have not been able to add one item to our sum of knowledge on that subject. Some few facts have been collected on distribution, but on migration my work amounts to zero, and therefore I propose to step down and out and let some one else take my place.

When I took up the work I did not expect to make anything financially out of it, and my expectations have been fully realized. I have not received one cent of income from it, and have even paid my full subscription every year to the *A. O. U.* I have neglected money making for the sake of the work - which I took up for the love of it and which I have thoroughly enjoyed - consequently each year has found me poorer than

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MIGRATION IN THE

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the last. But the end has come at last and now I shall give up all bird work and devote a few years to the bettering of my worldly condition.

I start for the East within a day or two of July 5. and five days later shall be in the neighborhood of Buffalo, and the next week take up my quarters in the Laboratory of the State University of Vermont at Burlington for Chemistry is my profession though I have sadly neglected it for my bird work.

If you know of any place where we could meet I should be very glad to see you, as it will take considerable discussion to decide on what to do with this

spring notes which I shall not be able to write up. — if indeed they are worth writing up. I know enough about the movements of the birds in the Mississippi Valley to know that of first thousand notes that have come in so far.

Fully eight hundred are wrong, and it is very much a question in my mind whether it will be possible to weed them out so that the remainder will be less than half wrong.

We have a few observers whose notes are nearly exact. Mr. Widmann, and Mr. Lloyd of San Angelo, Tex. probably have 90% of their dates correct — even Widmann does not average higher than that — while there is no other observer that will run over 50% of his dates actually exact.

I tried long and faithfully last winter to bring order out of the

American Ornithologists' Union,

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Chaos in which the notes of last spring were as they were sent in, and I am obliged to confess that my efforts so far as exactness is concerned was a failure.

No two ways of treating the notes — and I have tried a dozen — give the same results, showing that none of them were exactly correct or else that the movements of the birds are too erratic to be brought under rule & measure.

The study of the relation of the weather to migration has opened my eyes more than anything else.

I had the best weather notes that could be obtained, an immense volume of them, and yet when I tried to be exact with them, I found that

I could not do it. Possibly some one who had made a life study of the weather would be able to do it, but I could not. I could make a guess at what the ^{weather} conditions were under which the birds were migrating, but I had most palpable proof that many of the guesses were wrong and can expect nothing better for many of the others.

The schedules are coming in slowly they have so far been received from about twenty five observers, and there are probably about seventy-five yet to send.

Please direct your answer to Detroit. Minn. as I shall probably be there at that time and if not it will be forwarded to me wherever I am.

Yours truly,

W. W. Cooke.

Washington. D. C. July 10, '85

Mr. C. F. Merriam.

Sing Sing. N. Y.

Dear Sir.

Reached
here last night & found
your favor awaiting me.
Have spent most of the
day with Mr. Ridgway at
the Smithsonian. My
present plan is to leave
here Monday morning early
reaching New York a little
after noon. If not too
much trouble I would like
to meet you there. I don't
see how I can spare the
time to go to Sing Sing.
I shall be at the Am. Museum

about 4 p.m. and hope I shall
be able to meet not only you
but Mr. Allen and
Mr. Cones whom I understand
is now in New York.

Please give my regards
to Mr. Fisher. I am sorry
I shall not have a chance
of being personally
acquainted with him.

Yours truly,

W.W. Cooke.

(Met him at the Am. Mus. at
4 p.m. as requested. C.W.)

Burlington. Vt.

Aug. 4. 1885.

Dr. L. H. Merriam.

Sing Sing, N. Y.

Dear Sir.

Have you
learned anything as yet
definitely concerning the
printing of the reports. If it
is possible, I wish the matter
could be decided at ~~once~~. If
my report is to be printed I have
a better chance for working on
it during the next few weeks
than I shall have later; and if
it is not, the sooner that
fact is known, the better.

The reports for last spring
keep straggling in; three came

to-night. About half a dozen of
the good observers have not
yet reported.

Also you expect to send schedules
to each of the observers for
fall migration, or only to
those that ask for them. I have
only about fifteen schedules left.

Yours Truly,

W. W. Cooke.

Burlington Vt.

Aug 31. 1885.

Mr. C. F. Merriam.

Long Ling.

N. Y.

Dear Sir.

Did you ever
get my letter of Aug. 4. in
regard to the publication of
my report. I sent off four
letters that mail and have
never heard from any
of them. One was to Mr.
Fisher. Did he ever get it?

I can only repeat what
I said in it, that it would
be a great convenience
to me if it could be
at once definitely decided

one way or the other whether the
left is going to print the
report. Even a decision
that they would not print
it would be much
preferable to the present
uncertainty.

I enclose the list of new
names with addresses, as
you desired.

Yours truly.
W. W. Leake.

Burlington. H.
Oct. 21 1885.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam.
Washington. D.C.
Dear Sir.

At last I can
say that my report is fully
completed, and I will
express it to you, whenever
you ascertain certainly that
it will be printed at once.

Please let me know as
soon as possible, how the
matter stands.

The report in its present condition, will
make about one hundred and seventy
five pages, the size of the pages
of the Bull. of Geol. Surv. Ter.
or the Smithsonian Check List. 1881.

and treats of over five
hundred and sixty species.

So you see I have added
several since last winter.

Yours Truly,
W. W. Cooke.

Burlington, Vt.
Oct. 31. 1885.

Mr. C. F. Merriam.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir.

By to-day's
Express I send, as per your
directions, my report to
to Agric. Dept. I agree with
you that the present aspect
of affairs in regard to
printing, is most
unpromising & lamentable,
nor can I say that I like
the idea of the Smithsonian
doing the printing for us.

It does not speak very
well for the A. Q. U. if it
cannot do its own

publishing. But no matter how it is decided, it will be a great step in advance to have something definitely settled. This uncertainty of the last fourteen months has been trying to both patience and temper.

You will notice that I have used Smithsonian Catalogue as my basis.

If the Council of the A. O. U. are willing I should like to change and use the names and numbers of the new A. O. U. catalogue, but still retaining as additional the present Smithsonian names.

Yours truly.

W. W. Cooke.

Order from Lepointes, Calif.
Sept. 7, 1914 - same

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 3, 1914

My dear Dr. Merriam.

Your letter received in regard to the
weight of the bear.

A well fed steer has the following weights for
the different parts when the live weight is 1000 lbs.

Head without horns	28 lbs
Green hide	78 "
Legs to gambrel joint	19 "
Blood in the whole body	47 "
Tongue	6 "

Hence if the bear was in fair condition
I should judge that it weighed 988 lbs. plus
whatever it had dried out in the four days, which
latter I cannot judge at all because I do not
know the place or time of year. If it was a very
fat bear it would be about 20 pounds less than
the above weight, and if lean, 20 pounds heavier.

Yours truly.

Wells W. Cooke.

My dear Doctor,

I will acknowledge your very generous contribution to the Wells W.Cooke memorial fund and I thank you very much.

It appears now that the fund will reach the required amount if the contributions continue at the present rate. It has been estimated that about three hundred dollars will be needed.

I shall turn over your check to Miss Mary R.Brickenstein, Treasurer, 1603 Nineteenth Street.

Most cordially yours,

Saturday.

Leo D. Mines

Woolf, Dave, 1873-1940

1910

83/129
c

DANE COOLIDGE
DWIGHT WAY END
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Hotel Navarro,
New York.
April 3, '10.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I am sorry that we were not able to see you again before we left Washington but we had such a pleasant visit with you and Mr. Bailey I am content. Mrs. Coolidge was deeply impressed with the systematic way you are carrying on your work, and so was I, but your friendly way of getting myths from the Indians impressed me even more. It is worthy of study — as a method — by sociologists and I hope when we come ~~home~~ to see your collection of Indian stories.

If you are ever in Berkeley when we are at home I hope we shall be able to see you again.

Sincerely yours,

Dane Coolidge

1926

Coolidge, Harold Jefferson, 1904-

83/129
c

P.S. I expect to publish a story of
my trip, or my report as you suggest.

March 2, 1926

Recd. March 29, 1926

- I should put my much



SIGNET

pleased if you really
find something of value to you for your great book
in my little report.

Dear Dr. Merriam,

I was very pleased
to get your letter, and your
encouragement leads me to
think that my admirably
trip may have been of some
scientific value, as I had
hoped it would be. I am sorry

P.S. I expect to publish a story of
my trip, or my report as you suggest.

March 2, 1926

Recd. March 29, 1926

- I should feel very much



SIGNET

pleased if you really
find something of value to you for your great book
in my little report.

Dear Dr. Merriam,

I was very pleased
to get your letter, and your
encouragement leads me to
think that my admirably
trip may have been of some
scientific value, as I had
hoped it would be. I am sorry

that the specimens proved of so
little value. I allowed myself
to be misled by Hamberg who
said that for your purposes the
female was just as good as the
large adult male, in fact better
because you had less of them.

In all three cases we all
thought that the bear was a
male (there was no cub) and after
killing it was sorry to find our
mistake. I was particularly furious

because we had to shoot the third bear in self-defense, and thus made the storm which was the hint of my pursuit. I had great hopes of getting one of the monsters whose tracks we saw two or three times measuring 12 inches.

I am very much surprised that number 2 bear which I saw should have said was a grizzly should have been "mirabilis." She was very different from the other two with a shorter nose,

very high shoulder, and her ears more on the top of her head, giving a shorter fatter face. The other two looked more like dogs with long noses, and I assumed they were in the group you call Brown Bears only a small variety.

When I saw the 27 bear was in a tall grass meadow into which there ran three different ^{creeks} on their way to one common outlet into the sea. I have the impression that there are moles on admirably island, but I am not sure. The wine I referred to was a local wine being like a raspberry only paler.

If I can be of any further assistance, only too delighted,
Very sincerely, Harold J. Corbridge Jr.

Cosper, J. G. (James Graham), 1830-1902

1883-1886

Sketches, clipping included.

83/129
C

Hayward Cal
Jan. 6th 83

Dear Sir

I have had
some correspondence with
W W Cooke about a plan
for tabulating the observa-
tions on Birds of Mississippi
and at his request send
you enclosed a table used
by me for W coast Birds
altered in pencil so as to
suit his materials as far
as I can judge of them,
I also send a clear copy of
same article if you write
to him please enclose it or

mail it and enclose the
altered one, as he seems to
be rather migratory himself
& I don't know whether his
next address will be "Caddo
Ind. Terr." or elsewhere.

Possibly the new Ornith.
Journal may have larger
pages and thus give a
better chance to tabulate.
I may however state that
the Bull. Nat. A. Am. Club
would not print my table
on account of expense, and
I therefore sent to Wark.

Hoping this will assist
in making a useful com-
pend of the observations, I
remain
Yours truly
J. E. Cooper, M.D.

Dr. Cooper sent me the printed letter:
The ~~issue~~ item on hand (13) ~~is~~ 84
2 ~~supposed~~
Raymond Callahan

L Belding Eyr

Dear Sir

I was sorry to learn by yours
of 20th that you cannot get off
on a southern trip at present.
I have so far failed to find a
companion and unless I do I
will not go this fall. I might
however make the trip later
if the weather is favorable, but
possibly not before spring. If
I should be prevented, and you
go as proposed in midwinter
perhaps I may induce you to
go to some of the localities I wish
to examine and get information
specimens etc. for which I will
pay expenses to a limited amt.
It would perhaps make my own
visit there unnecessary.

Please to inform me when
you are able to go and I will
if you wish, write you full par-
ticulars about my project -
For many reasons the end of
the ~~dry~~ season would be better
than of the rest for the trip, but
I would make the best of it -

There has been nothing inter-
esting in the bird life lately.
Emerson is so busy taking les-
sons in the S. F. Acad. of Design
that he does not collect any,
and I have seen nothing to
record. It is worth notice that
shooting has driven away all
the Geese which in 1855 I found
swarming near the head of
this bay - one is rarely seen now.
I also observe that the young
generation of Cal. birds are
getting very destructive even

to small birds, and from the
increased persecution not only
the Magnifiers have been exter-
minated within 50 miles of
S. F., but the crows, which were
plenty at Oakland up to 1875
are all gone, most of the coast
Mts. on this side of the Bay.
From eastern bird-books I see
that the hawks etc. must be
far more numerous even in
breeding season in some of the
old states than they are here,
and as near large cities too.
I have read the 1st Vol. of Water
Bd., in continuation of my Cal.
Ornithology as well as of C. B. & R.
work - It is perhaps much more
full than my Land Birds,
including all the U. S. Water Bd.
It is in many other ways an
improvement on the older Vol.

Though it has been a little
~~frail~~ we have had none of the
Northern birds migrating south
yet except Audubon's Warbler &
the Ruby Crown, both scarce.
^{see} I may have to go south-
ward in the spring as far
as the Colorado R. on busi-
ness and will try to make a
few notes if not collections.
Shooting is getting to be too
hard for me to do much
at now, and I have little
time for skinning birds.

If you come this way I hope
you will give us a call.
We might effect more by a
little conversation than by
much writing. Hoping to
hear from you soon I remain
Yours truly
J. G. Cooper M.D.

Haywards, Cal.
Mch 17th '86

Dear Sir The cur-
ator of the U. S. N. M. tells
me that the skin of the
Aphodonta is packed
away with others at
present & inaccessible.
I fancy that your N. S.
will turn out like other
or "Cal's" species of more
than genus, to inter-
grade with the type sp.
& be only a var. like re-
ally if not quite all of
Baird's *Muridacetes*.
See Coues & Allen's Rep.
Even the exceptions are
mostly far more of more
specimens J. G. Cooper



Nothing but the address to be on this side.

C. H. Merriam
Dept. of Agriculture
Washington D. C.,

DR. J. G. COOPER.

News has been received of the death at Hayward, Alameda County, California, of Dr. James G. Cooper, at the age of seventy-two years, July 19, 1902. Dr. Cooper's services to science have been such (coupled with the singular omission of his name and his father's from the chief records of American biography) as to render some statement of them desirable for a generation to whom he was little known.

James Cooper, an English merchant, settled in New York shortly after the Revolution, accumulated a competency and died in 1801, leaving a son, William Cooper, born in 1798. At an early age the latter, who had inherited the love of nature from his mother, Frances Graham, determined to devote himself to the study of Natural History. At the age of eighteen young Cooper became one of the founders of the Lyceum of Natural History, now the New York Academy of Sciences, under the lead of Dr. S. L. Mitchill, John Torrey, Daniel Barnes and others, and soon became a generous contributor to its library and one of its officers. In 1821 William Cooper sailed for Europe to continue his studies in zoology and was elected the first American member of the Zoological Society of London. He attended the lectures of Cuvier at Paris, and on his return devoted himself to ornithology and paleontology. He was a friend of Schoolcraft, a correspondent and collaborer of Lucien Bonaparte, who dedicated to him the well-known *Falco Cooperi*. His son, James G. Cooper, was born June 19, 1830, and in 1851 graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, following it by a two years' course in the city hospitals. In 1853 he was appointed surgeon to the northern division of the Pacific Railroad Survey, at the suggestion of Professor S. F. Baird, and spent some time at the Smithsonian Institution, preparing himself for the duties

of naturalist as well as medical adviser to the party. He was one of the original group of young naturalists which gathered around Professor Baird in the early days of the institution, who made up the Potomac-side Naturalists Club, and whose names are classic in the annals of zoology in this country. Although never robust, and for much of his life in delicate health, he survived all the others. Dr. Cooper was assigned to the western division of the survey, terminating at Puget Sound, under the superintendence of Geo. B. McClellan, of the Engineer Corps of the army. Jefferson Davis was Secretary of War; the regimental quartermaster who supplied the needs of the party on the Pacific coast was U. S. Grant. Collaborers with Cooper in working up the collections were Baird, Torrey, Asa Gray, Hayden, George Gibbs, Meek, Le Conte, and Dr. Suckley, in cooperation with whom Cooper prepared a report on the birds of Washington Territory. As usual in those days, he collected in all branches, and made a particular study of the meteorology of the region. The following year he returned to Washington to prepare his report, but was soon obliged by lung trouble to return to the more favorable climate of the Pacific coast. For several years he devoted himself to making collections on the Pacific coast, much of the time at his private cost. During the latter part of the Civil War he was surgeon in the 2d Cavalry, California Volunteers, and served until the regiment was mustered out. In 1865 and 1866 he was naturalist to the Geological Survey of California, under Whitney, and his report on the birds of the state, after the close of the Survey, edited by Professor Baird, was published by Professor Whitney at the personal cost of the latter, though in form as one of the 'Reports of the State Geological Survey.' In 1866, Cooper married Miss Rosa M. Wells, and continued in the practice of his profession until the failure of

his health in 1871, after which his work, though often interrupted, was still pursued as his strength permitted. He was long associated with the California Academy of Sciences, and also with the State Mining Bureau. Much of Dr. Cooper's early work was of great help and importance in developing knowledge of the fauna, flora and geology of the Pacific coast. Ornithology knows him as a valuable contributor, and his most extensive works were on that branch of science. Later he published many papers on the mollusks of the coast, and the number of titles in this line of research mounts up to forty-three. Many of the younger students of zoology on the Pacific coast have testified to their appreciation of his help in guiding and promoting their studies. The Cooper Ornithological Club of California was named in his honor, and the first number of its *Bulletin* contains a sketch of his life, up to 1899, and a portrait. To this summary we are indebted for many of the above facts. Dr. Cooper was tall and slender, rather reserved in manner, and his physical activity was held in check by ill health during much of his life, while for years he was dependent upon his medical practice for support. But in spite of these handicaps his work on the Pacific coast has been of primary importance, and by his death passes away the last member of a group of men to whom American zoology is permanently indebted.

WM. H. DALL.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS.

The Principles of Inorganic Chemistry

HELM OSTWALD. Translated with the author's Sanction by ALEXANDER EMMETT. London, Macmillan & Co. xxvii+785.

Professor Ostwald has taken an important part in the development of physical chemistry, and his work is fully appreciated by all who are able to follow his

Cooper Ornithological Club

1899-1924, n.d.

By Chester Barlow

83/129
C

BULLETIN OF THE

Cooper Ornithological Club
OF CALIFORNIA.

Edited by CHESTER BARLOW

Associated with { HENRY REED TAYLOR,
HOWARD ROBERTSON,

A Bi-monthly Echo From
Californian Fields.

Editor's Sanctum.

Box 135.

Santa Clara Cal., Dec. 5/99.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Washington, D. C.,
My dear Dr. Merriam:-

Your renewal to the "Bulletin" for Vol. II has been received and entered, and I would thank you for your kind opinion of the magazine as expressed in your letter.

Referring to your suggestion to make use of the scientific names of bird species, as well as the vernacular, in printing articles, I cordially agree with you and you will find the fault corrected in Volume II. As for the Cooper Club itself, the sentiment is about evenly divided as to which should be given the preference, but we appeal to a much larger field than that represented merely by our members, and the use of both names seems the most satisfactory solution of the matter. I am glad you called attention to it. We are open to improvement and I think you will notice several substantial changes in our next number. An index for Volume I will be mailed with the January issue.

The "Bulletin" has been warmly endorsed by our Eastern friends and there is nothing whatever to prevent its permanent publication, which is, in fact, assured. The January issue will interest you, I am sure.

Cordially yours,

C. Barlow

Cooper Ornithological Club

Organized June 22, 1893



Publishers of
THE CONDOR
A Magazine of Ornithology

OFFICE OF
W. LEE CHAMBERS.
BUSINESS MANAGER
EAGLE ROCK
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PACIFIC COAST AVIFAUNA
A Serial Devoted to
Ornithological Papers of Unusual Length

For the observation and co-operative study of Birds, because of the resulting pleasure;

For the spread of interest in Bird Study, so that this pleasure may be shared by others;

For the conservation of Birds and Wild-life in general, for the sake of the future;

For the Publication of Ornithological Knowledge, as being contribution to Science.

Dear Cooper Club Members:

THE CONDOR must go on. Through the recent years of high prices we have endeavored by every means to avoid raising the dues of the club. By private contributions, Endowment Fund, and sale of back volumes, income has been sought to cover the added cost of printing for which dues and subscriptions are inadequate.

We have surrendered to the inevitable. Printing and engraving costs have doubled since 1914. For nearly five years we have been publishing THE CONDOR at a loss, in spite of some annual increase in membership and subscribers, and 1923 has been the hardest year of all.

For these reasons, the Board of Governors has approved a raise in dues to \$3.00 per year, beginning with 1924, and we believe that the members will accept this raise with unanimous support. This raise will barely cover the cost of production. Remember that editors and business managers, in fact all officers, give their time without remuneration. Your continued support will help to make this expenditure of time and energy worth while.

THE BUSINESS MANAGERS.

WE START ALL OUR BUSINESS WITH THE CALENDER YEAR.

ALL DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW PAYABLE.

Please remit promptly

Dues in the United States \$3.00 per year

Dues in foreign countries \$3.25 " " "

Subscription in the United States \$3.00 per year

Subscriptions in all other countries \$3.25 per year


W. LEE CHAMBERS, Business Manager
Eagle Rock, Los Angeles Co., California

Drawer 123

*Check \$5.00 sent
Jan - 21, 1924*

Cooper Ornithological Club

(Northern Division)



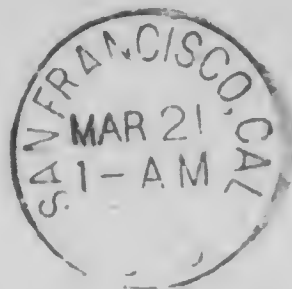
The March meeting of the Club will be held on the evening of the 26th inst. in the lecture room of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley.

The main paper of the evening will be by Mr. H. C. Tracy on the "directive markings of birds."

J. Grinnell, pres.

H. W. Carriger, Sect'y.

THE SPACE BELOW MAY BE USED FOR CORRESPONDENCE.



POSTAL CARD

THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
U.S. Biological Survey,
Washington
D.C.

Cooper, William S. (William Skinner), b. 1884

1926

83/124
✓

University of Minnesota
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts
Minneapolis

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

July 28, 1926.

*Ans. in negative
August 10, 1926
can*

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

At the suggestion of Dr. Lawrence Martin I am writing you for advice with regard to a project for a combined glacial and plant and animal ecological study in the region of Glacier Bay, Alaska. The enclosed document will give all the necessary details and I am also sending you a copy of a paper by myself which will be useful in further explaining our plans.

It has occurred to us that Mrs. E. H. Harriman might possibly share the deep interest in Alaska which her husband had and might, therefore, be willing to aid us financially. Dr. Martin has felt that you could advise us as to the feasibility of making a request to Mrs. Harriman and if you consider it feasible, as to the best method of approach.

We have obtained the cordial endorsement of the American Geographical Society and the Carnegie Institution of Washington and the project is now before the National Research Council with the approval of the above institutions.

The recent setting apart of ^{the} Glacier Bay region as a National Monument was due in part to the efforts of the three prospective leaders of this expedition. I was Chairman of the Committee of the Ecological Society which conducted the campaign. Dr. Adams was a member of this Committee and Dr. Martin was of very great assistance to us.

One point that I would like to emphasize is the desirability of periodic visits to the region extending over a long period of years, probably at intervals of five years. In 1916, as you will see from my paper, I established some permanent areas for observation on a small scale. I revisited them in 1921 with results that were decidedly worth while in spite of the small scale on which I had to work. It has seemed to me that the region presents such unique opportunities for such a study that an investigation upon a much more adequate scale would be decidedly worth while. I have financed my work at Glacier Bay personally so far but I find it impossible to carry on the work on a scale that is adequate.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam.

-2-

Any advice and assistance that you can give us
will be very greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

William S. Cooper

W. S. Cooper, Assoc. Professor,
Department of Botany.

WSC/MI-7

University of Minnesota
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts
Minneapolis

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

August 26, 1926.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Thank you most heartily for your letter
of August 10.

I regret that you feel that our plan would
probably not appeal to Mrs. Harriman but I do
appreciate your own approval of the study.

In the last few days we have received
the endorsement of the National Research Council
so that so far as backing by scientific organizations
is concerned we are in a strong position.

Will you kindly keep us in mind and if any
further suggestions come to you they will be very
greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

William S. Cooper

W. S. Cooper, Assoc. Professor,
Department of Botany.

WSC/MI-46

Cope, E. D. (Edward Drinker), 1840 - 1897

1887-1889

83/129
C

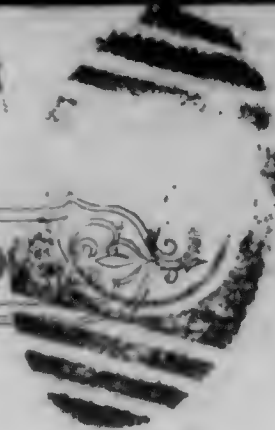
Mila. 11/15 7887

Dear Dr. Merriam: I have examined
my rodents & fail to find
the box containing Arvicola
cutata. I hope to find it
later.

Very truly yours

E. W. Cope.

Ans. Nov. 22, 1887.



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington
D.C.

Mila. 9-10-1888

Dear Sir: -

I find I have no copies
of the paper on Geogr. Distrib. from
Gray's Atlas. A nearly complete
essay is to be found in the preface
to my Check List N. Am. B. & R.
Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. vol. 1.
Yours E. W. Cope.



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.

Dr. Hart Merriam
Agricultural Dept.
Washington D.C.

And a correction
sent Jan. 7, 1889.

Phila. 1/3 1889

Dear Dr. Merriam

Louis is re! Your just, & un-
der the circumstances, very mild complaint,
is only the latest of a large install-
ment which I have on file as evidence
against the late printers of the Natural-
ist. I am happy to say late, for the
publishers have terminated their contract
with them, & will start fresh with a
new firm for this year. They remove
to New York, & will push the magazine
better than ever before.

It seems the printers did not send
you proof! As editor I supposed you
had seen proof & did not note especial-
ly the engraving, as both are *Arvicolae* in

the large sum, & I would not correct
what I suppose you had approved. Are you
sure you didn't see proof? In any case
I arranged the cuts correctly, as I wrote
(copied) the lettering under them which
you say is correct. The printers we had were
absolutely unprincipled in such matters &
my relations with them this year (88) were
a continuous broil. Think of the manner
in which the Dec. no. is printed! Although
I stand in their office 3 days to reading the
proof, they printed a large part of it with-
out making the corrections.

Send on the correct drawing of the
Chilodius with a ~~set~~ note at once, correcting
the error & I will insert it in a con-
spicuous place in the Jan. no.

We have a new reportant (Bacteriology)
this year (89) & expect ~~a~~ renewed energy on the
publishers. They are the first real publishers
we ever had. They increased the subscriptions
very much last year,
but not quite enough to make
expenses. Yours truly E. W. Cope

Copeland, Manton

1912

SEARLES BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY
BOWDOIN COLLEGE

MANTON COPELAND PH. D.,
PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

BRUNSWICK, MAINE, Feb. 25, 1912

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I am taking the liberty of asking you for information on the distribution of *Sorex hoyi* in New York state. The only record I am able to find is the one you published in 1895, when you mentioned three specimens from Locust Grove. I have found a specimen of this shrew in the Lee Museum of Biology at Bowdoin College taken at Canton, N. Y., and shall publish the record, unless I find that the animal has been taken commonly in the state during recent years.

I hope that I am not putting you to too much trouble by this request.

Very sincerely yours,

Manton Copeland

Ans. C. H. M., 15, 1912
cm

Cortalyn, George Bruce, 1862 - 1940

1902

83/129
C

WHITE HOUSE,
WASHINGTON.

December 12, 1902.

My dear Sir:

In order that this office may be accurately advised, for use upon occasions when the information would be required, I beg leave to request that you furnish me the names of the ladies and gentlemen who compose your immediate family.

Very truly yours,

Geo. B. Connelley
Secretary to the President.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Division of Biological Survey,
Department of Agriculture.

and,

Cory, Charles B. (Charles Barney), 1857-1921

1884-1912

83/124
C

8 Arlington Street,
Boston.

Dr C. Hart Merriam
Dear Sir,

Your favor of
Dec 18 received. You ask my
opinion of the plan proposed
by your printed enclosure I
think it, by all means, good
and can not see how any
one can think it otherwise.
In regard to the position of
Supt of New England I should
be unable to accept it
as I am hard at work
writing the birds of San
Domingo and it takes
up all my time and
also preparing a digest

3)

I have not time now
to go into my reasons
for preferring the 12th Ed.
to the 10th but will say
that it would necessitate
less changes in the old
names so well known
by us all and would
largely conform with
the Foreign lists in
cosmopolitan species (i.e.)
water birds &c.

It seems to me that
American naturalists
become specialists and
forget that the
study of exotic ornithology
requires the assistance
of many works of foreign

3)

of a large work on
the whole of the West
Indies so your very
time is pretty well
occupied; but shall
be always glad to
help in any way I
can.

In regard to letting the
Smithsonian pay for
our printing it seems
to me to be a matter
to be decided by vote
This could be done
by printed card with
"yes" & "no" to be returned
by mail. I for one
would prefer to see
the Club pay its
own bills.

Authors and that for
any one who does not
study American ornithol-
ogy nothing else a
uniformity of nomenclature
would be highly desirable

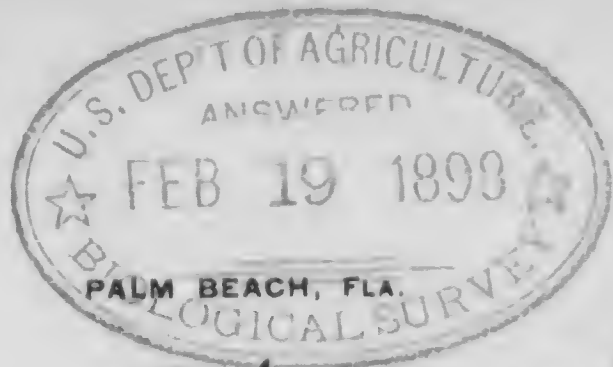
Very cordially yours
C. B. Cory

P.S. Do you wish me
to return the map &
printed matter?

C. B. Cory

Ans'd Jan. 11, 1884

FLORIDA MUSEUM
OF
NATURAL HISTORY.



Feb 14 - 1898

My dear Dr. Merriam

I notice by the papers
that they are talking of making
some arrangements with the
Florida Seminoles regarding
a reservation or something of
the sort. I send you under
another cover a local paper
in which I am writing a series
of articles on the Seminoles - These
one shows the location of two of the
villages.

If I can be of use to any one in
Washington to help out the
Seminoles question let them write
to me. I know about all of the
East Coast Indians & they like me.

Hastily yours

C. B. Coon

Recd. & Ansd.
April 15, 1899. - C. B. Cony

near Phoenix Arizona
April 6, 1899.

My dear Dr Merriam

Found a pretty fine basket
made by Guma apache Indians. & knowing
your liking for such things I send it to
you with my compliments. If by chance
it is not a good one throw it away

By the way I run across a great bear in
the mountains who told me he had killed
an animal in the mountains called an
"Dex" it is a new lie to me. Some day
if I ever get to Washington I will ask you
what it could possibly be.

Hastings Jones

C. B. Cony

POST OFFICE ADDRESS
AND
TELEGRAPH STATION,
HYANNIS, MASS.

Great Island

My dear meernam

I thank you for the
very fine photographs. they are
immense - Did you get some
specimens of Seminole Indian
baskets last spring. I told
my man to send them to you
I picked up some rather good
baskets this summer, a couple
of northern Cal. Porno Indian baskets
were among them rather better
than I had, one of them I have
laid aside for you If you have
room for them it may interest you
Wish you could bring me meernam
and spend a few days here in
latter part of September - I hope to
be here from Sept 20 to Oct 2.

Sincerely yours
Charles B. George

Ans. Oct. 6, 1900.

Palm Beach, Fla., April 6th, 1901.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:-

I have forwarded to you a rather interesting specimen of Tulare basket. I am leaving Monday for Jacksonville to attend a Directors' Meeting of the Company in which I am largely interested, and, as I wrote you previously, it may be absolutely necessary for me to go to New Orleans.

I regret that that this meetings interferes with my being in Washington, as I wrote you previously the date as you already know was chnaged unfortunately for me. If possible, I shall show up in Washington. If not, write me what I can do. Address 160 Boylston St., Boston, and your letter will be forwarded.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles D. Cory.
per P

(Dictated.)

Ans'd April 11, 1901,

160 BOYLSTON STREET,
ROOM 4.

BOSTON, MASS.....Sept.....12th,.....1901..

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:-

I require an assistant at the Chicago Museum.
Ridgway's brother went there after the death of his son; ^{as taxidermist for a short job} but I do not
think he is quite fitted for the position, although he did his work
very well indeed as far as taxidermy went. Of course, this is entirely
between you and me about Ridgway; but if you know of someone who could
take the place of young Ridgway who died, ^{who} ~~who~~ would be loyal to me, and
would like to grow up with the Museum, I wish you would send me his name
and address. He need not be a bird expert as long as he understands
something of the study, and can identify ordinary, common birds at sight.

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you one of these days.

Cordially yours,

Charles D. Cory

(Dictated.)

Ans. Oct. 23, 1901

Palm Beach Fla
July 3, 1902

My dear Merriam

Thank you for the very
fine baskets which arrived today I
have nothing just like them in my
collection and they charming additions

The big green basket is not for sale. You
are most welcome to it. If it is not too big
but if I give it to a museum it will have
to go to Chicago It is a stunner but not perfect
so I can hardly call it a perfect stunner
Hope to see you in the spring Chapman is
here with me

Cordially yours C.B. Cory

160 BOYLSTON STREET,
ROOM 5.

BOSTON, MASS., April 26th, 1902.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam:-
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:-

I have received your letter of April 24th.

I regret not having been able to stop in Washington on my way North; but rather pressing business came up, and obliged me to go to New York for a Directors' meeting.

Regarding Ned Dearborn, I have engaged him as my assistant in the Field Museum, and as far as I know I shall keep him there. He seems to be doing very well indeed, and takes an interest in the affairs of the Museum. Of course, if someone offers him a better job, I do not wish to stand in his way; but as I have said before I expect that he will remain as my assistant.

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you one of these days, and thanking you in person for the charming baskets which you were so good as to send me.

Very sincerely yours,

(Dictated.)

Charles D. Leary

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMERCIAL CABLE COMPANY.



15.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President.
J. O. STEVENS, Sec'y. WM. H. BAKER, V. P. & G. M.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President.
ALBERT BECK, Sec'y. GEO. G. WARD, V. P. & G. M.



(556)

TELEGRAM

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

NUMBER <i>268</i>	SENT BY <i>ay</i>	REC'D BY <i>JD</i>	CHECK <i>325</i>
Dated <i>Boston Mass 17</i>			1936 Callowhill St., Phila. Telephone, Locust 3400.
To <i>Dr C Hart Merriam</i>			Received at <i>11/17 1903</i>
(WHERE ANY REPLY SHOULD BE SENT.)			

*Care Mr Wilmer Stone Phi Academy
of Sciences
194 Race St
Please thank the union for honoring me so
much by making me president an honor
I did not expect and fully appreciate
hope to arrange to go to Philada tomorrow
will wire C B Long*



FORM 18.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY.

This Company transmits and delivers the within message subject to the following
TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the regular rate is charged in addition. It is agreed between the sender of the message written on the face hereof and the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, that said Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED message, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured, nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines, or for errors in cipher or obscure messages. And this Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.

Correctness in the transmission of messages to any point on the lines of the Company can be INSURED by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon, at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance.

No responsibility regarding messages attaches to this Company until the same are presented and accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of this Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

Messages will be delivered free within the established free delivery limits of the terminal office. For delivery at a greater distance a special charge will be made to cover the cost of such delivery.

This Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

This is an UNREPEATED message and is delivered by request of the sender under the conditions named above. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison.

No employee of this Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

WILLIAM H. BAKER,
V. P. and Gen'l Manager.

JOHN O. STEVENS,
Secretary.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY,
President.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMERCIAL CABLE COMPANY.



15.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President.
J. O. STEVENS, Sec'y. WM. H. BAKER, V. P. & G. M.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President.
ALBERT BECK, Sec'y. GEO. G. WARD, V. P. & G. M.



TELEGRAM

208P

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

NUMBER 21R	SENT BY ay	REC'D BY K	CHECK 12.	1936 Callowhill St., Phila.
Dated Boston Mass 18			Telephone Received at	
To Dr. P. Hart Merriam			(WHERE ANY REPLY SHOULD BE SENT.)	190
Academy of Sciences.				
I am more than				
disappointed that I can not				
go to Philadelphia				
C. B. Barry				



FORM 18.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY.

This Company transmits and delivers the within message subject to the following
TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the regular rate is charged in addition. It is agreed between the sender of the message written on the face hereof and the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, that said Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED message, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured, nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines, or for errors in cipher or obscure messages. And this Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.

Correctness in the transmission of messages to any point on the lines of the Company can be INSURED by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon, at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance.

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This is an UNREPEATED message and is delivered by request of the sender under the conditions named above. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison.

No employee of this Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

WILLIAM H. BAKER,
V. P. and Gen'l Manager.

JOHN O. STEVENS,
Secretary.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY,
President.

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CHICAGO

Feb 10 1910

My dear Dr Merriam

Mr Osgood said he thought you would
sometime dispose of your mammal collection. If you
have any idea of doing so please let me know.
I am afraid we could not raise money enough to
buy it anyway: but I can get a few thousand
dollars now and might not be able to at
some future time.

Osgood is having a good time in London
according to his letters.

Sincerely yours
C. B. Cary

[Copy of answer:]

Washington
Feb. 19, 1910.

Dear Mr Cary:

Thanks for your letter. No, I don't want to sell
my mammal collection but may have to. Hence
if a definite business offer were made for it I would
consider it.

Long to hear of poor Ferry's death. He was a kind-hearted boy.
Very truly
Yours

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CHICAGO

April 26, 1910

My dear Dr Merriam

Thank you very much for the copy
of "The Dawn of the World" I have only glanced
over it as yet, but look forward to an
enjoyable evening with it. It is a genuine
gem and a welcome addition to
my library. Sincerely yours

Charles D. Cory



THE LAKE SHORE LIMITED
EN ROUTE VIA
NEW YORK CENTRAL - LAKE SHORE ROUTE

Thursday

Dear Dr. Merriam

I was very sorry not
to see you, I expected to call
on you Wednesday morning
but received a telephone from
New York that some people I
had to see were leaving for
Europe, so took the night train
Tried to telephone you but
found you had no telephone
so had to give that up.

There were several things I
very much wished to talk over
with you but I hope for
better luck next time

Cordially yours,

C. B. Cory

Recd. April 1, 1911
C.B.

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CHICAGO

April 5, 1911.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Doctor Merriam:

Will you kindly tell me what your opinion is regarding the names proposed by Frisch (1775) and whether you think they should be accepted. I should also like to have your opinion regarding the eastern distribution of Mephitis hudsonica. Have you ever seen typical specimens from Wisconsin? All Wisconsin skunks which I have examined seem to be a general mixture of everything. I have, however, seen some specimens which could be referred to hudsonica although none that was as large as those from further west. If you have good typical specimens in your collection from Wisconsin, I should be glad to know the localities where they were taken.

I wrote you the other day saying I was sorry to miss you, and suppose you have received that letter - better luck next time.

Yours truly,

Charles D. Cory
Curator of Zoölogy.

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CHICAGO

May 17, 1912.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Doctor Merriam:

I am sending you a copy of my paper on the "Mammals of Illinois and Wisconsin" thinking that you might care to look it over as you will find your name used a great many times as authority for statements included therein.

Henshaw wrote about the bear skulls and I am having them looked up.

Yours truly,

Charles D. Cory

Curator of Zoölogy.

Recd. May 24, 1912

Cosmos Club

1887-1934

83/129

Washington, D. C.,
Feby. 23rd, 1887.

Dr. C. H. Merriam,
Department of Agriculture,
City.

My dear Sir:

A meeting of the joint committees appointed to organize the Saturday Lectures for this season will be held in the hall of the Cosmos Club on Friday the 25th inst., at 7.30 P. M. The entrance on this occasion will be through the third, or east, parlor.

It is desirable that you should come prepared with some

names to suggest to the meeting
as suitable lecturers.

Very truly yours,

Robert S. Letcher

Cosmos Club,

(Washington, D. C.)

June 14th 1888

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that at the
meeting of the Club on
June 9th, you were elected a member
of the Committee on Admissions
first meeting held on Feb 2. at 7.30 P.M.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Bryan
Secretary.

To D. C. Hart Merriam

Cosmos Club
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR:

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD
Feb'y 14, 1921 YOUR NAME WAS TRANS-
FERRED FROM THE ~~Non~~-RESIDENT TO THE ^{non-}RESIDENT
LIST OF MEMBERS, EFFECTIVE *Jan. 1, 1921*
VERY RESPECTFULLY,

D. L. Hazard

SECRETARY.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON, D.C.

*7 Dated
Feb. 20, 1921*

February 17, 1921.

Dr. C. H. Merriam,
1919 - 16th Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Your communication of the 5th instant was presented to the Board of Management at the meeting held February 14, 1921.

There is no "Retired Class" provided for in the by-laws. The Board considered from your communication that your residence in Washington during the year is sufficiently limited to warrant transferring your name to the non-resident list and it is hoped that this action will be satisfactory to you.

Very truly yours,

D. L. Hazard

Secretary.

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Ackd. Jan. 15, 1934

January 10, 1934

Dr. C. Hart Merriam
1919 Sixteenth Street
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 4th instant tendering your resignation as a member of the Cosmos Club was presented to the Board of Management at its meeting on January 15. In consideration of your long period of membership, the Board decided not to accept your resignation but instead voted to relieve you of further payment of dues.

Very truly yours,

J. L. Hazard
Secretary.

DLH:mpd

Cottam, Clarence, 1899-

1928

83/124
C

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

FRANKLIN STEWART HARRIS, PRESIDENT

PROVO, UTAH

March 27, 1928

Dept. of Zoology

Recd. April 2, 1928

Dr. C. Hart Mariam,
1919 16th St.,
Washington, D. C.,

Dear Doctor Mariam:

I am wondering if you have any copies of your recent paper delivered at the A. O. U. meeting. I am anxious to secure this history of "The Life Zone Work in America", if it can be procured. If you can tell me where I can purchase this I shall deeply appreciate it.

Thanking you in advance for this favor, I am

Most respectfully,

Clarence

Cottam

Clarence Cottam.

CC:KB

Cowes, Elliott, 1842-1899

1873-1899, n.d.

83/129
U

Fort Ransom, Dak., Feb. 22, 1873.

Ch Merriam, Esq.,
Washington, D.C.

Dr Sir:

Referring to yr. communication of the 11th inst.,
relative to identification of certain mammals
submitted to me by the Smithsonian Institution,
your attention is resp^y invited to the
accompanying sheet, containing the desired
information.

Yours resp^y
Allen Lowe.

dupl.

List of Skins submitted by the Smithsonian Institution to
Ellis Coues, for identification.

Fam. Muridae.

Subf. Murinae.

Murine Series.

1. Mus musculus L. Montana. 1872 (No. 11199) C. H. Merriam

Signatum Series.

2. Hesperomys leucopus var. sonoriensis (Lac) Coues Montana. 1872. (11200) "

" " " " (11201) "

" " " Lower Geyser Basin. Sept. 3, 1872 (11201) "

" " " Snake River. Sept. 16, 1872 (11202) "

Subf. Arvicolinae.

3. Arvicola riparius Ord. ♂. Lower Geyser Basin Aug. 30, 1872 (11123). "

" " Fort Ellis, M.T. July 10, 1872 (11124) W. B. Platt.

Fam. Jaculidae.

4. Jaculus hudsonius, ♂ Upper Madison Canon. Aug. 31, 1872 (11124) C. H. Merriam.

" " ♀ Fort Ellis, M.T. July 14, 1872 (11125) W. B. Platt.

Fort Randall, Dakota.

Feb. 22, 1873.

Ellis Coues

Fort Randall Dakota

Mar. 22, 1873

C. A. Merriam, Esq.,
Washington, D.C.

My Dear Sir,

I am much obliged to you for the list which
however, I enclose to you for certain additional
data I desire, since I do not know
the exact locality in which you collected

Will you please return me
the list, marked with the locality and
date of observations of those species I have
underscored? Any further remarks you
may be able to suggest to offer would be
very acceptable, and, if used, duly
acknowledged.

Faithfully yours
Edw. Coues

[Nov, 3, 1873]

Dr. Sir:

Thanks for early copy of your report,
which is interesting & important.

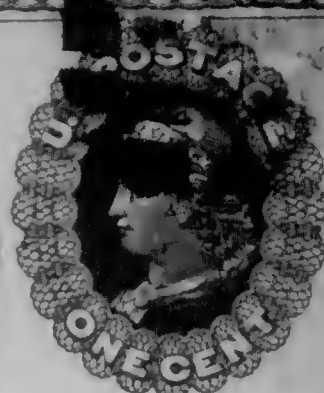
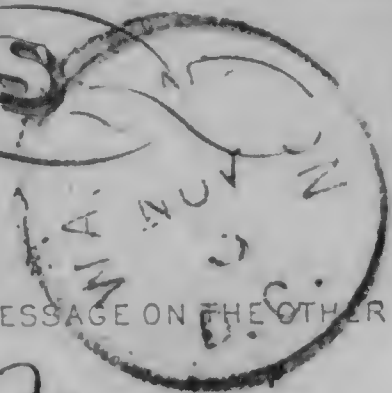
Please send me full title &
date of the work in which it appears
and oblige Yours faithfully,
E. C. Cope,

Care Smithsonian Inst.
Washington D.C.

United States

POSTAL CARD

WRITE THE ADDRESS ONLY ON THIS SIDE-THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER



Ans. Nov. 7/72

To Mr. C. Hart Merriam
East Hampton
Mass

Please address:—Care Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

A. S. Northern Boundary Commission,

Office of Surgeon and Naturalist of the Survey,

Apr. 6

1874

My Dear Mr. Mann

Much obliged for the
notices — do so some more.

I forward to you
a little book received here
for you — As you will perceive
on trial, the "Key" is utterly
worthless. The authors have taken
my Key, reduced it to an
absurdity, and made
assess of themselves generally

Yours truly

Wm. C. Coker

C. H. Merriam
East Hampton
Mass.

OFFICE OF

U. S. Geological and Geographical
Survey of the Territories,

Washⁿ Dec. 12 1876

Dear Sir:

I do not recognize
the mass as you describe
as Siderophy. If you
have made no mistake in
dissecting, I should judge
that as your specimen, the
fossiliferous question is
probably a detachment
from the trapezium.

Yours truly

Wm. H. Cones,

Ch. Merriam
New Haven Conn.

OFFICE OF

U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories.

Washington Nov. 7. 1877.

Dear Mr. Merriam -

- I have to thank you for a copy of the B. Conn. - which more than meets my most sanguine expectations of what you would do sometime when you got a chance to "stay yourself". It is admirably done, and bears prima facie evidence of excellence & reliability. I like to see a thing done thoroughly, as you have done this. I judge a writer's way of work a good deal by his attention to the minutiae of printing, his exact quotation, his brackets, dates & what not, that all go to make a polished production. No ornithologist, however long in training, need be ashamed of anything there is in this job of yours. I am in such good humor with the book, that I freely forgive your good humored sarcasm in one place. You will discover in due time, if you have not already done so, that there are ways of finding out things beside shooting birds on the spot - ways too that don't require such "marvellous intuition" as you credit me with. - In case of D. dominica I had nothing but the name from Linsley, & did not look up what he says, said, having satisfied myself, by what

U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories.

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authority - I lean to "surmise", that the bird reaches
the Conn. Valley. Was not Linsley's *Sylvia auricollis*
meant for *Protonotaria*?

You have done admirably - perge modo.
But don't let anything you have done, or may
do hereafter, beguile you into writing another
such letter to Schurz as I saw in his office
this morning.

Yours very cordially
Edward Jones.

C. Hart Merriam Esq
N.Y.

OFFICE OF

U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories.

Washington Mar. 9, 1878.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam
College of Phys. & Surg^y, New York.

Dear Sir—

With reference to your proposed work on the Ornithology of New York State, I accede with pleasure to your request for my views on the desirability of the work, and your ability to accomplish it successfully. We have had nothing of the sort since DeKay's, which never carried much weight with scientific men, and has long been an anachronism. Though several good contributions to the subject have been made, like Lawrence's for example, the whole work has never been properly done. No ornithologist now knows exactly what the bird fauna of the State of New York is. Your very thorough and most excellent treatment of the birds of Connecticut has put that subject on an entirely different and most

OFFICE OF

U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories.

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Satisfactory basis. I sincerely trust you will be encouraged and enabled by those in authority to do the like for the State of New York. It ought to be done, and I know of no one who would be likely to do it better than yourself. You are quite at liberty to use this letter, which is meant to be one of genuine recommendation, in any way that may subserve your interests, and advance those of the proposed work.

Yours very cordially
Edward Jones.

Dr. Elliott Coues

Leading American Ornithologist.



Office of the

U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories

Washington May 1 1878

Dear Merriam

In conversing with Mr. Allen the other day, I found he had given you almost precisely my advice. - I have got in B. Colorado such a symphony of all N. W. Rock as has never been before, and I hope never will be again.

I did not understand you meant if I said anything to shorten your imitations of Lammie. On the contrary, the more you elaborate the microtopographical areas the better.

You seem to be very busy - success of your work - do it full justice at any cost. I will send you a photo. when I get one.

Yours very cordially

Andrey

O. H. Murray
Locust Grove N.Y.

[1879]



Office of the

U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories

Washington June 19 1879

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I am sorry to learn that you disapprove of my proposed use of trinomials in zoological nomenclature, and hope you may be prevailed upon to change your present attitude of opposition to the inevitable, for your own sake, as well as for the good of Science. Have you any other objection to trinomials than that they are an innovation, contrary to custom, precedent & authority? But many a custom is better honored in the breach than in the observance. Zoologists have always, in effect, used three terms, on occasion, usually compounding with their servility of conscience by inserting an unnecessary and awkward "var", "subsp." or greek letter; but numberless instances of the use of trinomials pure and simple are found scattered through zoological literature. All of us use an additional third term for our varieties or subspecies, and find such indispensable, now that we know there is no such thing as a "species" in the Linnaean sense, in nature. All that I do is to simplify matters by removing the superfluous interpolation; and give the nomenclature, by systematically using it, a firm basis and an exact meaning. I consider it as much of an improvement upon Linnaeus.

method, as the latter was upon Buffon's or Brisson's. The
"innovation" of mine receives the full support of the
American school of ornithologists, and will unquestionably
become a fixed fact in the nomenclature of the future.
We have made it the "office rule" of the Bulletin, except in
~~such cases as~~ those in which a contributor may formally
and finally object. Under these circumstances, you will
do well to fall in with the rest. If you cannot do so
conscientiously, please write an attack upon the
proposed system for the Bulletin, that I may answer
it, when I learn the grounds & nature of your objection.

With kind regards,

Yours very cordially,
Charles Jones.

S. A. Merriam, Esq.
Locust Grove N.Y.

P.S. If you conclude to withdraw your opposition,
please so advise Allen immediately, that he may make
certain corrections in your review of Rathbun's List,
in the forth coming Bulletin. In view of the present turn of
affairs, some expressions in that review are unfortunate.



OFFICE OF THE

U. S. GEOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY OF THE TERRITORIES,

Washington, D. C., June 14 1882

Dear Mr. Merriam:

The shrew is probably S. platyrhinus.

The picture is a historical and well-known one, probably as good as you are likely to get for your purpose. I should advise, that in stead of engraving you have it copied by photographic engraving. Being a line engraving without shades or washes of color it should be perfectly amenable to that process and you would ensure absolute fidelity to the original.

Many thanks for your kind expressions concerning the Checklist. I am glad to have your first opinion of the work, and to think that it may be as useful as you say.

Sincerely yours,
William C. Coker.



U. S. Geological and Geographical

Survey of the Territories.

Washington, D. C., Aug 29 1882

Dear Dr. Merriam -

I am in Washington,
and shall always be here.

Same address as always,
Smithsonian

I shall be glad
to see the advance
sheets of your work

Sincerely yours,

Elmer C. Coates



U. S. Geological and Geographical

Survey of the Territories,

Washington, D. C., Sept. 16 1882.

Dear Dr. Merriam.

I have to thank you
for sheets of your work. If it
is to continue as before, you
have certainly a great and
valuable work on hand.

It is very handsome in
mechanical execution, and
I trust you will carry it to
successful completion.

As far as the Mammals
go, we have not for a long
time had anything better
than. I am especially
glad you are doing this
Mammal work, on official
grounds, as it cannot but

been great help to the History
of N. A. Mammals.

Doubtless you require
no help for me in any
way, but if I can serve
you in this work,
command me.

- You have given
Gentry a richly deserved
Castigation. First time any
like the truth has been
told about him.

Yours sincerely
Wm. C. Coker



OFFICE OF THE

U. S. GEOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY OF THE TERRITORIES,

Washington, D. C., Apr 8 1882

Dear Dr. Merriam.

The Mammalia make
a very fine showing indeed. Thank
you for my copy, and I will hand
the other to Gill. You are evidently
bent on trumping your Rev. B. Com.,
which you know I always esteemed
highly. Success to you, and
don't let this first part be long
without its successor.

Sincerely yours
Woodbury

Dr. C. Hart Merriam
Locust Grove
Ky



U. S. Geological and Geographical

Survey of the Territories.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 17 1882.

Dear Dr. Merriam

The question asked
I cannot answer satisfactorily.
The article was written
about 4 years ago, is in fact
in advance of B.C.T. vol. ii,
and any statement respecting
Pericoma in N.Y. manner
must have had proper basis
though I cannot at the moment
recall the authority. Perhaps
it may be found in my
ms. synonymy of the species,
and if so I will send
it to you. The best name
I have is unquestionable

and N.E. U.Y. is very similar.
If you had up your
pouch of the Vertebrates
you will have a great
work. The mammals
certainly make a fine
appearance, and the
birds you are so subtle
Even more familiar
with. With good
wishes,
Sincerely yours,

Albert J. Cook



Dear
I ca
The
about
m as
and
Per
must
thou
Vre
it w
ms.
and
it to
wa



U. S. Geological and Geographical

Survey of the Territories,

Washington, D. C., Jan 1 1883.

My dear Doctor:

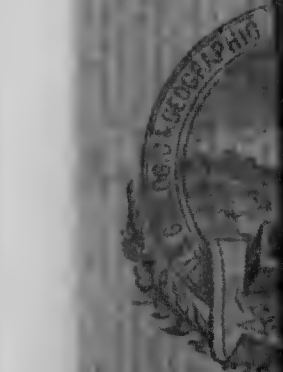
I cannot make
anything of your shrews but
Blarina brevicauda (the red
B. talpoides), notwithstanding the
difference in the myxæ, which
I take to be sexual or seasonal,
like the swelling of the tail of
Condylura, or the appearance
which gave us some "pachyurus"
in another case. There is a
good deal of that sort of
thing among Soricidae, not as
well made out as yet as
I wish it were; but of the
general fact of such swelling

there is no question.

The 1st Vol. of your Trans.
Linn. Soc. is remarkably
handsome. I shall notice
it in the Nation. Foster is a
crisis of mine. Was I ever
a member of the Society?

I hope you will have
great success in your
anthropological parts of the
Harrowood verisimilitude.

Yours truly
Edward Gould



My
any
Blat
B. ta
diffe
I tak
like
Cond
which
in ad
prod
thing
will
I roo
fere

Washington D.C.
Jan. 30 1883.

My Dear Dr. Merriam -
Yours only & hands.
You seem to have been
having a fine time. You
will find the Linn. Trans.
Doc. noticed in notation of two
weeks ago, in complimentary
style. I shall be glad to have
you look up the matter
of my Corresponding membership,
as you suggest. I do not
think I can be mistaken
about the Shrews. They are
both Blarina, and if one is

specifically different from the other,
there is no known U. Y. species
of the genus but bravicauda.
One who has not studied
the little creatures hardly ap-
preciates what changes their
sexual affairs make in their
personal appearance.
They are almost human
in this respect!

Ours truly yours,

Edw Carey

Dr C. Hart Merriam
Lovers Grove Wis



U. S. Geological and Geographical

Survey of the Territories,

Washington, D. C., Feb. 10 1883.

Dear Dr Merriam -

The "americans" was
a slip of memory; *lege canadensis*

Have not my Monog. Rod.
by me, but now that I think of it.
(Raf.) Le Conte is probably the
authority in H. leucoprus.

Hastef, I am
yours



OFFICE OF THE

U. S. GEOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY OF THE TERRITORIES,

Washington, D. C., Oct. 30. 1883.

Dear Merriam —

Yours to hand — I suppose you have seen the latest (and last?) B.N.O.C. The article on the P.M. is I think, all that could be desired, and should help you in your address. I do not feel the slightest apprehension about anything that the singular Maynard Trade Combination may do. They cannot act against the Union, where members sit; and to decline the membership would be to ostensibly as well as actually put themselves beyond & in antagonism to the great body of Am. orniths. — By the way, do you remember who was a minority of one in Council on voting on these two names? We must be weak indeed, with everything and every body on our side, if we need fear any opposition publication. I should rather like to see our start up, if it were not for the pain I should feel to see it come down!

I have had some corresp. with Allen about the
Chairman of the Comm. Nomencl. Not that it is very vital,
but because some misunderstanding appears to have
come up. It should not appear upon the surface. Allen
has it right in the Bull. My off hand remarks, which
you remember, goes for nothing and should not
have been made. It is true that I named R. first in
announcing the committee. Your minutes, as read
and adopted, named C. first, as I distinctly remember,
and we shall have to go by that. A. did not lead
either in ^{my} announcement nor in your minutes, and
he evidently, as I see by his letter, did not think
of it. I think this will meet your own wishes
and approval. Of course, it is all right as between
A. and C., and A. says it can be easily arranged
as here indicated. He suggests that there ought to be
a Secy of the Comm., probably a good idea.

Yours truly

E. C.

Dear M.

The name is Theodore
as per list of members of the
Zoological Society of London,
whence I took it. I don't
see how "Ferdinand" slipped
in, unless by slip of my
pen. Yours - C

Office of

C. Hart Merriam, M. D.,

Locust Grove,

Lewis Co., N. Y.

Nov. 2, 1883.

Dear Dr. Cones:

You wrote me that
Krauss was "Dr. Theo. Krauss"
& Ridgway writes that it is
"Theodore", but in the list
you prepared for A.O.B. you
gave it "Ferdinand". Now
I am in a dilemma & am
holding this notification till
I ascertain the correct name.
All other notifications have
been sent -

Very sincerely

C. Hart Merriam

1726 N. St.

Washington

Nov. 4 '83.

Dear Merriam —

Please let me
know, as soon as possible
whether or not Maynard
and Wade accept
their Election as assoc.
members of the Union.
If they accept, or intend
to do so, some present
operations I hear of
are peculiar, to say
the least. If they do not,
the sooner we know they
do not the better.

Things are working

into a admirable shape for
the new magazine, &
the prospect is favorable
in every particular. If
there is any "monkey-faced
Owl" mousing about,
or anything of that sort, or
vaguely resembling it,
there will such short
work made of it that
they will hardly know
what hurt them. People
who do not know how to
behave must be taught;
and those who won't behave,
must be made to.

I hope you have got

off your notifications to
Every body by this time. Let
me know how the answers
Come in, in general: Of
course you file all
such, and all official
Correspondence, as orders
of the Council.

I have some delightful
letters from Europe already.
I think we have everything
our own way, and only
need to go ahead in a
dignified way, having really
no opposition worth a moment's
consideration. — How could we have,
since we are it. Sincerely
— E. C.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Nov. 29th 1883

Dear Dr. Merriam —

The advices of Memberships are very satisfactory, though not more so than I expected. My private ^{letters} from England on the subject are of the most charming description. At your convenience, after awhile, let me know how the rest come in. I suppose we should carry on all the electees until next annual meeting when those not heard from can be dropped, and we can do some fresh electing. Have you heard from Wade or Maynard. The former has written me lately in the most friendly and flattering manner, but — Dr. J. B. Merrill U.S.A. can be addressed, if you are in any doubt of his location, Care Adjutant General, U.S.A. Washington. Edw. Nelson, I fear may be soon out of reach of mail communication, if not already so. You might learn exactly of him from

and with many points of his manuscript before me, I should have come to almost nothing with them - they could not be made to work

However, we shall see what we shall see, when it comes out

Sincerely yours, C

Mr. Riffney, did you have Forbes' address as Normal Illinois?
F. E. L. Beal I do not know. Webster City, Iowa, Care Hon.
Chas Aldrich would catch him. What did you have
for Col. Goss' address? I am pretty sure he would
answer promptly. T. S. Roberts I know nothing of.
W. E. W. Scott - did you send care Princeton College?
I can probably get his Arizona address

All right about the review you mention.
As you say, I certainly can have no objection
to proper criticism of any of my published
works - no honest man can. Of its
character I can of course judge for
myself when I see it, and make reply
as I think proper, if any should seem to
be required. I suspect I know what troubles
the Professor: his orthological Latin & Greek, and I doubt
that our words are as a whole amenable to criticism from a
purely ^{classical} ~~etymological~~ standard: they are mostly too bad. In fact, it
requires a zoologist as well as a scholar to handle them adverbally.
For example, and with reference to your suggestion that I ought
to have submitted it to some philologist, I had the entire set of names
examined & passed upon by a professional teacher of Latin and Greek,

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C., Dec 7th 1883

Dear Merriam -

Glad to hear of the acceptance! The thing has taken very handsomely abroad. I fancy some of our "associates" are not quite wakened up to its dimensions. Any of those whom you know personally ought profitably receive from you one of those reminders you are so well able to give!

I like your arctic advice very much indeed. It is a much needed, well deserved good plain talk. The thing has made much noise and stir here, but you know everything goes by official demerol in Washington. The official conscience is a coward.

Covered with an official hide so
pachydermatous, that you can't rub
it in hard enough; it requires
to be tattooed in to stick

Sincerely yours
Edw. C. C.

Wash: Jan. 18 1884,

Dear Dr Merriam.

I don't think I ever
knew Ogilby's address. The name
is not in the L.S. London List.
Try Allen - if he does not
know, try Care British O. U.
6, Tenterden st., London. Much
obliged for attentions in re McE-
wraith. Can you send me a
copy of 'Plain English' - did
you not promise me one?
By the way. I have been correspond-
ing extensively with J. M. W. lately,
and find him so amenable
to reason that I hope to see
him in the true fold after
all - Convince you!
Aunt Cous.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., April 24 1884

Dear Merriam:

Please put the enclosed letter on file with your A.M. papers to make sure that it is not overlooked at the next meeting, when I wish to nominate the writer for assoc. member.

I sail for Europe on the 24 May, and shall no doubt be able to do a good deal for the A.M. with the brethren over the sea. My length of stay is undecided, but I should want of course to be back before the next meeting of the union.

Your committee seems to be flourishing and I have no doubt will do good and important work. Mine has accomplished a great deal already, and has proved the

a very happy family. The A.M. outlook is bright—
everything seems to be going satisfactorily. I do
not regard the I.O.O. as in any sense a
rival, — a single number of the Ark weighs
more than a ton of I.O.O's. My publishers are
"solid" on the Union, and I have no doubt
with so anything in reason for us, either as
to the Ark or other publication which may come in
due time.

I have never seen a copy of your Committee
circular! And will you please also let me
know whether or not Huxley has accepted
Membership? Are there now any Electees abroad
not heard from?

Yours sincerely,
Eliot Cress.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 5th 1884

Dear M.

I quite agree with you that our decision on most points in nomenclature is final and irrevocably settled, and I should not think of going as a delegate of the A.O.U. to ask any advice or confer with any idea of guiding a point. Going as I do for health and recreation, advantage may profitably be taken to the A.O.U. to cultivate the personal & semi-official amenities by recognizing that an officer of our U. is to spend some time among those of the B.O.U. That is about the idea which Allen has in preparing the paper, which I think you will like and wish to sign when it comes to you.

Thanks for your kind offer respecting the "Key". The terms are very reasonable, and

I will ask E. & L. to send you a large lot of
the adpts with the money for copying. - You
certainly have done "your share".

Sincerely yours,

Edw. C. C. C.

Dr. C. H. Merriam,

Locust Grove, N.Y.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 5 1884

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Skin and skull of neosorex
can be sent to you, and I will attend
to it promptly. In describing a large new
shrew, if it be Neosorex, compare carefully N.
palustris (Rich.) Verrill, from which N. navigator is
probably not specifically different. If a true Sorex
with 32 teeth, cf. my Sorex obliquus in the ^{specimen} Bulletin.
Would it be well for me to see, and
express an opinion before publication? The
S. I. material is in my hands for elaboration,
though I have never yet found time to finish the
monog. of which "Preliminary Notes" were published
some years ago.

Yours truly,
Dr. Charles Merriam
Locust Grove, Ill.

Very truly yours,
Alfred Cowles

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 15th 1884

Dear Merriam:

Thanks for the photo. which I am very glad to have. I will reciprocate direct, the first opportunity, and in fact expect to see J.M.B. soon. I am glad that the shrew is so unquestionably new. A small box containing *N. navigator* type specimen, skin & skull, and ~~skull~~ skin of *N. palustris*, went to you by mail a few days ago. In returning, please address to me, and mark the pkg "to be retained;" otherwise it might possibly start across the Atlantic from here. - I am sorry, on the whole, that my project for doing good to the A.O.U. did not find favor among my colleagues, - but will of course use my utmost endeavor to that end, just as if my hatching had been all that could be desired.

Sincerely yours, Allen Coues

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Sept 22 1884

My dear Hart:

I enclose a letter from Prof
Breckmore which speaks for its self. I
think the arrangement a good one,
though it is too late, probably, to say anything
about it on your circulars. Far better
some arrangement like this, than to hear
of it afterward, as we did last year.

I also enclose a letter from
E. A. Holmes. Please record him as a
candidate for Assoc. Mem. develop on my
proposition.

I may not be able to be in
New York before the 30th as Dr. Pelater will
be here with me - but will come if possible

I trust we may have as agreeable
a harmonious a meeting as last year. This
second meeting is in some respects even
more important than the first, as showing
us where we stand.

My committee will have their com-
plete report ready, - if the R.R.'s subcom.
comes to time with their list. and perhaps
before another year the mature fruit
can be seen to light.

By the way, - I am to turn into the
Smithsonian the collection of shrews which
have been for some years in my hands.
If the Brooke has not already come back
please send it.

With best regards,

Conrally yours

Edw. Baird

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,

CENTRAL PARK (77th St. & 8th Ave.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 19 1884,

Dear Dr. Conner,

On the 30th I believe, we are to have the pleasure to receive, the American Ornithologists Union, and it has occurred to me to drop you this informal line. Last year Dr. Holder & I furnished the members with lunches - such as they were - free, and I had intended to give them myself this year, but

It has occurred to me that I might thereby be establishing a precedent that might become embarrassing in the future, when organizations of which I am a member wish to meet ^{here and I should} ~~not to~~ propose to give them lunches free as I had to the A.O.U., of which I am not a member. Suppose therefore that in your circular you say that lunches can be obtained of the secretary by those who desire them for 25 cents each, and I

will make up to
the printer anything
he may lose, and
no one knows any-
thing about it.

Let me hear your
views -

Very truly yours
Albert D. Bickney

1726 N. St. NW.

Washington, D.C. Oct. 8th
84

Dear Dr Merriam:

I find in my pocket
the provisional list of Corresp.
Members, as drawn up by
L.A.H. & myself. Thinking
that it may help you here
& then to an address I
enclose it. Don't take the
trouble to return it, as it is
of no account, excepting
any assistance it may be
to you.

Took my special
to add. The meetings,
both of the union and
of the committees, could
hardly have been more
entirely satisfactory, and
the whole outlook is
is favorable to the
prosperous life of the
A.M.

Yours sincerely,
Elliott Cones.

Smithsonian Inst.,

Oct. 18, 1884

My Dear Merriam

Please record
the name of Dr. Morris
Gibbs, Kalamazoo, Mich.,
as a candidate for Assoc.
Member, A.S.N. on my
proposition.

Sincerely yours
Elliott Coues.

Ans'd. May 4/86.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. May 3 1886

Dear Dr. Merriam,

Please put on file in
office of Secy. A. O. U. the application of L. O.
Pinder for associate membership, the
candidate being proposed by Mr.
Ridgway & myself. Enclosed are
papers on the case

Truly yours,

Alfred Coates.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

Secy. A. O. U., Washington D.C.

—1726 N STREET N W.—
—WASHINGTON, D. C.—

Boston, Oct. 14 '88.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

In the list of
Officers, Committees, &c., of the
A.O.U., my attention has been
called by several members
to the apparently accidental
omission of the "Committee on
Avian Anatomy." Kindly see
that it is properly presented
on the next List which we
publish. According to my
recollection Dr. L. S. with-
drew, leaving Dr. R. W. S.
as the only member
besides the Chairman.

Yours truly,
Elliott Cones.

Mr and Mrs. Couss request the
pleasure of your company
on Tuesday, November 13,
from nine to eleven, to meet
members of the American
Ornithologists Union.

1726 N Street,
Washington, D.C.

R. L. V. S.

Accepted
Nov. 4/88.

CABLE ADDRESS:
COUES, WASHINGTON

HOME ADDRESS:
1726 N STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE ADDRESS:
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan. 8th 1894

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

A meeting of the A.O.U. Committee
on Nomenclature is called for
Monday Jan. 15, 1894, in the Smithsonian
Institution at Washington.

Very truly yours

Edw. Coues
Chm

CABLE ADDRESS:

COUES, WASHINGTON

HOME ADDRESS:

1736 N STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE ADDRESS:

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 27 1894

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I send you by express
the Columbe-galline & raptorial parts
of copy for the new Check List,
with such revisions of the progr. distr.
as I have been able to make.

Please use your judgment
in further disposition of this batch
of copy. I have informed J. A. N.
that it is turned over to you.

Yours,

John Coues.

CABLE ADDRESS:
COUES, WASHINGTON

HOME ADDRESS:
1726 N STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE ADDRESS:
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Oct. 28. 1894

My Dear Sir:

A meeting of the Council
of the A. O. U., will be held at Mr.
Dutcher's, 525 Manhattan Avenue, N. Y.,
on Monday, Nov. 12, at 11 a. m.

Very truly yours,

Elliot Coues

President.

CABLE ADDRESS:
COUES, WASHINGTON

HOME ADDRESS:
1726 N STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE ADDRESS:
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Feb. 6, 1895

Mr. C. H. Merriam,

Dear Sir:

The A. O. U. Committee
on Nomenclature will meet at the Smiths-
onian Institution on Monday, Feb. 11, at
11 a.m.

Very truly yours,

Elis A. Coues

Chairman

THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE STANDARD NATURAL HISTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE—Sir: Referring to the statement in SCIENCE of April 5, 1895, page 387, top of second column, that certain illustrations of Brehm's *Thierleben*

'were pirated by the *Standard Natural History*,' I beg to say that it is incorrect and libelous. The matter concerns me, as one of the authors of the *Standard Natural History*, and also as the author of the *Key to North American Birds*, in several later editions of which many of the same illustrations were used by my publishers, Messrs. Estes & Lauriat, of Boston. As 'piracy,' like plagiarism, implies dishonesty, the allegation thus made by Dr. C. Hart Merriam, who signs the article, is too serious to be overlooked.

Nevertheless, being ready to believe that Dr. Merriam erred through inadvertence, I am prepared to accept an apology, in so far as I am personally concerned; but I am not authorized to state that this will be considered satisfactory by the other parties who have been thus libeled.

Very truly yours,

ELLIOTT COUES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 5, 1895.

[The word piracy may be used in two senses—moral and commercial. When I wrote the article in which it was stated incidentally that the Brehm plates in the *Standard Natural History* were pirated, I believed that they were in both senses. Among the reasons for this belief may be mentioned the following:

1. The book itself contains no statement of the fact that the illustrations are taken from Brehm.
2. The anatomist Fürbringer states that he searched in vain for a copy of the *Standard Natural History* in Germany (*Journal für Ornithologie*, Apr., 1892, 138).
3. It is stated in the *Nature Novitates*, Berlin (Vol XV., No. 1, Jan., 1893, p. 18, nr. 326), that the work 'may not be imported into Europe on account of the reproduction of the Brehm woodcuts.' ['Darf in Europa wegen Nachdruck der Brehmschen Holzschnitte nicht eingeführt werden.']
4. The name of the artist, Mützel, was

Controversy with Dr. Coues—1895

SCIENCE
June 21, 1895

683

erased from many of the copied plates. When the attention of the editor was called to this injustice, he replied: "The cutting out of Mützel's name was a business necessity."!

If, in spite of the above facts, the cuts in question were sold to the publishers of the *Standard Natural History* by the publishers of Brehm's *Thierleben*, I withdraw so much of my original charge as may be inferred to imply commercial piracy; but I by no means retract the charge of moral piracy—the greater offense of the two, because it has no legal redress.

Is the deliberate reproduction of another's pictures without credit less censurable than the reproduction of another's words or ideas? And what shall one say when the sin of plagiarism is darkened by the erasure of the artist's name, so that neither artist nor author may be known?

Just why Dr. Coues mentioned his *Key to North American Birds*, and his publishers, Estes & Lauriat, who by the way were not the publishers of the *Standard Natural History*, is hard to understand, inasmuch as neither were mentioned in the review to which he takes exception.

Since the above note was sent to SCIENCE I have received a letter from the publishers of Brehm's *Thierleben* in Leipsic. They state that they sold to Estes & Lauriat certain electrotypes from Brehm, to be used by Estes & Lauriat only, 'under an agreement according to which it was forbidden to Messrs. Estes & Lauriat to resell these electrotypes.' They state further: "As we had been informed that notwithstanding this settlement our electrotypes had been resold, we called Messrs. Estes & Lauriat to account, and they were forced to confess that they had resold the electrotypes" to three different firms!

In reply to my question: "Were the electrotypes sold by you to S. E. Cassino & Co., and published in the *Standard Natural*

History with your knowledge and consent," they state: "We answer No! These electro-types had *not* been sold by us to Messrs. S. E. Cassino & Co., and were used without our permission in the said works. Besides, we are still at issue with Messrs. Estes & Lauriat, Boston, on account of this affair."

C. HART MERRIAM.]

SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

Report on Water Supply; Geological Survey of New Jersey. By CORNELIUS CLARKSON VERMEULE, Consulting Engineer. Vol. III. of the Final Report of the State Geologist. 1894.

The Geological Survey of New Jersey has just issued a report bearing the above title, the interest and value of which are not limited by State lines. Its author, under whose direction the topographic map of the State was made, has had the best of opportunities for studying the questions involved, and has not failed to avail himself of them. The results of his study have been put in as simple and available form as possible, considering the complex nature of the problems.

The range of interests touched by the report is great. It will be of inestimable value to cities and communities which draw or may draw their supply of water from the streams of the State, and to manufacturers who use or may use the power afforded by them. Less directly, but not less certainly, the report will be of great value in the same lines outside the State, since many of the principles developed are of general and some of them of universal application. The report also contains discussions and suggestions which have a bearing on agriculture and forestry, the latter of which is just now attracting wide attention in this and other States. The educational value of the report is great, not only to those whose financial and sanitary interest are touched by it, but also to students of hydrography and geology, and to intelligent citizens in general. From this

standpoint, its value lies not only in what it proves and affirms, but also in what it disproves and denies. It is scarcely too much to say that there is not a community or a class in the State which may not be benefited by the intelligent study of the volume before us.

The study of the water resources of the State was begun by Professor Cook long ago. As early as 1868 the subject was discussed by him, and the annual reports of the State Geologist have since made frequent reference to the subject, and have reported the progress of the work, the results of which are now embodied in this volume. Interest in the questions of which it treats has been stimulated by the rapid growth in population, especially in the vicinity of New York and Philadelphia. In 1882, 587,760 people in New Jersey were dependent for water upon systems of public supply. In 1894 this number had nearly doubled, while the amount of daily consumption had increased from about 49,000,000 gallons to about 108,000,000. Of this amount, 100,000,000 gallons were drawn from streams. If the population of the State continues to increase at the present rate for another half century, and if the demand for water keeps pace with the increase in population, as is sure to be the case, it is evident that another half century will make heavy demands upon the available supply of water which the State affords. On the basis of the recent rate of increase in population, it is estimated that by 1950 that part of New Jersey adjacent to New York City will need 547,000,000 gallons of water daily; and the author remarks that "since fifty years cannot be considered a long time in the future for which to make provision, it is evident that the time has come for us to know what our resources are and to provide for their preservation and wise development" (p. 6).

The investigation of the water resource

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AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

Washington, Nov. 2, 1895.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

A meeting of the Committee
of Arrangements for the Congress of
1895 is called at 11 a.m. on Monday,
Nov. 4, at 1726 N. St.

Sincerely yours,

Elliott Coues,
Gh^m

Major Bendire,
H. A. Lucas,
& I met at
Coues house
as above &
transacted the
necessary business
in 20 minutes
& adjourned - con

1726 N. st., Washⁿ. D.C. Dec. 5th 96.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

You have doubtless rec'd Mr. Brewster's call for a meeting of the Comm. at 10 a.m. Dec. 10, in the Smithsonian; which of course covers the case of the appointment I was to make with you.

A matter of special moment will come up, in the case of Zamelodia vs. Habia. — Dr. Stejneger was right in his contention, that Habia of Vieillot and Lesson was a vernacular name only, for Tanagers of the genus Saltator, and therefore could be used by Reich., 1850, for our Song Grosbeaks. But he quite overlooked the fact that Cuvier, 1817-1849, used Habia as a strict Latin genus name instead of Saltator, which of course rules out Habia Reich. 1850, and Zamelodia will therefore stand. I will come prepared with the proof of this proposition to lay before the Committee, and hope that the blunder perpetrated in both eds. of the A.O.U. List will now be obviated. I have informed Dr. Stejneger of the facts by letter, and written an article on the subject for the January Auk.

Very truly yours,
Elliott Coues.

1726 N St., Wash. D. C.
Jan. 14. 1897.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

If you will maintain unchanged your vote on Clangula, we shall carry the point. At present it stands you and I and Brewster vs. Allen and Tidgway. Allen has asked me to change mine, and very likely done the same with you. I have replied that I cannot conscientiously do so, as I find him mistaken on a matter of fact. I have been carefully over the whole case, and know that we made a bad break when we transferred Clangula from the Golden-eye to the old Squaw; we shall have to eat our own words, and the sooner we do so the better, without making a very bad one over it, with neither pretending we like it. The case is better settled now, than deferred. For the result will be the same, and we shall have the credit of promptly retracting our mistake, when it was pointed out to us by Salvadori, instead of humming and hawing over it.

The facts are these: Leach established Clangula upon the Clangula of Gesner. He explicitly says so, in citing Gesner as the sole authority for the name. That is, he adopted Clangula, of Gesner, and first made it technically tenable in modern ornithology. Clangula is figured by Gesner, and of course there is no question about the bird meant. It is the Anas clangula of Aldrovandus, who copies Gesner's figure, and Anas clangula of every body else, down to and past Linnaeus. Leach's type is fixed as firmly, by our rules as if he had said "my type is Anas clangula Linn., 1758." which is exactly what he means, and what he sufficiently does say.

This being the case, Salvadori is perfectly right. W. B. is also right in stating that Leach simply proceeded to put the old Squaw under Clangula.

because it was the only species he had occasion to mention, and
because he thought it belonged there. So it did, according to
his ideas of genera. But to consider that therefore the ad. 82 man
is the type, would be on a par with taking for type the first
species an author puts under the genus, which is absurd,
as we know. Having indicated his type, as Leach did,
he might have put hummingbirds or ostriches in his
genus blangula without altering the case!

Very truly yours,
Ellis C. Coues.

Wash. D.C. Jan. 23^d 1897.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

As you seem to have more reasonable ideas on the application of some of our Canons of nomenclature than have always prevailed in the A.O.U. Committee, I should like to ask if you have ^{ever} examined for yourself the case of Sylvania vs. Myiodiectes, which has been decided in favor of the former since 1886. I find on recent attentive examination that Sylvania has no standing whatever. In some respects it is parallel with the Claugula case we have at last succeeded in setting right; and if you find yourself in agreement with me in this instance, we can carry the case in Committee and restore Myiodiectes. The points are these:—

1. Nuttall names "Sylvania. (Setophaga, Sw.)." Thus on its face it is a mere synonym of Setophaga, proposed as a substitute therefor; which is absurd.

2. Nuttall, ¹⁸³² includes in his genus: (a) the Redstart, (b) Hooded Warbler, etc. (c) Blue Gray Gnatcatcher ~~catcher~~.

(a) The redstart ^{was} already type of Setophaga Sw., ¹⁸³¹ and thus out of the question.

(b) The Hooded Warbler was made type of Myiodiectes Aud. 1839, on the first dismemberment of Nuttall's heterogeneous genus.

(c) Leaving the Blue Gray Gnatcatcher alone in the genus Sylvania, and ^{this} consequently antedating Poliophtila as the tenable name! which would be ridiculous, if we should use Sylvania instead of Poliophtila—yet there is no alternative to this, except by taking the common sense as well as strictly technical ground, that Sylvania is what Nuttall says it is, viz: a synonym of Setophaga.

Yours truly,
H. W. Conner

Ans'd in
affirmative Feb. 16/97.

AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

1426 K St., Wash. D.C. Feb. 14 '97.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

You have doubtless seen the concluding part of Newton's Dictionary of Birds, - a very great work, in which I have special interest, both personal and professional. A review of it for Science would naturally fall to your lot, as one of the editors of that periodical, and if you intend to prepare a notice I should not wish to anticipate you; if not, I should be gratified to review it for Science a work for which I should have nothing but praise. Kindly let me know at your early convenience.

I have sent to the Ark a note on Sylvania, the subject of our recent correspondence. The Committee certainly blundered in this case, and I cannot yet see how we came to make such a blunder.

Yours very truly,

Edward Cony

Ans. Mar. 12/97

1726 N. St., Wash. D. C. Mar. 8 1897.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Yours to hand, with enclosures—
your view of the case is exactly what I supposed
it would be, and thus far there is but one opinion
in the A. O. U.

I enclose a rough draft of something
such as I suppose the charge and specifications
should be. Kindly return it with any criticisms
or suggestions for its improvement.

You will probably agree with me that it
should be short & sharply to the points we
can prove, without going into any side-issues,
without any display of feeling, and rather more moderate
in tone than the enormity of the case might justify. No
specifications we could prepare would increase
the gravamen of the offense, in a case of such outra-
geous indiscrepancy as the printed paper bears on its
face.

Regarding possible liability of the A. O. U. in the
premises, I have consulted a good lawyer, who
differs with some of our members, but thinking we have
nothing to fear for expelling him. Dr. S. Charges in due form
are always in order, and if the result after trial, in accordance
with the Const. or By laws of any organization, be expulsion,
there lies no cause for action. I will have the Charge &
Specifications revised for stiffness & shape by a lawyer.

Yours very truly,

Elliott C. Cones.

1726 N st., Wash^g D.C.
Mar. 14 1897.

Dear Dr. M.

I am naturally pleased at your remarks.

The date of Jan. 1897 is correct, for the formal distribution of the vile thing through the mails. The earlier date you had in mind was that of printing it, and holding it back, to terrorize her into submission, with threat of publication. He sent her a printed copy about Oct. or Nov. 1896, accompanied by the threatening letter, which we shall produce; and in Jan. 1897, put his threat into execution, when she had begun suit for divorce.

I will have due legal opinion to accompany the case, and also have the Charge and Specifications revised by a competent lawyer.

Yours truly, C.

Ans'd. Mar.
17, 1897, but
request not complied with
as yet

1726 R St., Washⁿ. Mar. 16/97

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Some reasons may occur to you why I hand you (as the bio. ed. of Science) the enclosed, instead of mailing it to Cattell.

But one reason that may not occur to you is, that I have wound it up somewhat abruptly, thinking that perhaps "C. H. M." might like or be willing to bracket an editorial note at the end—something to the effect that ~~he~~ he observes with pleasure the advertisement ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~advertis~~ of the N. Y. branch of The Macmillan Co of London, as indicating the accessibility of the remarkable work in this country, where it probably needs only to be known to be considered indispensable by every actual ornithologist, and where its study would greatly promote the science, etc.

Yours with regard,

Elliott Coues

Ans'd. May 3/97.

1726 N. St., Washington, D.C.
May 2, 1897.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I would call your attention to what is apparently an error in your memoir of Bendire in Science Feb. 12, 1897, where you say that "his earliest published writings are in the form of letters to well-known naturalists, chiefly Allen, Baird, and Brewster. I have looked into the matter with some care, and thus far have failed to find anything prior to June, 1872, when in the Amer. Nat. are some notes of mine based on Bendire's private letters to me. I believe that this is his first appearance in print. It is of little consequence who first produced him, but a matter of some bibliographical & biographical interest to have the matter settled in accordance with the facts in the case. You may have seen a skit of mine on the subject in the April Asprey. If you find on investigation that the facts are as I say, no doubt the correction of your mistake had best come in Science from our own pen; and in that case, simple reference to the fact that I called your attention to it will suffice to acquit me of the necessity of saying anything about it over my own signature.

I see that Dr. Knowlton's memoir in the Asprey, based on errors, makes the same mistake. If I am wrong, kindly set me right.

Very truly yours,
Ellis Coues

Recd. May 13/97.

1726 N. St., Wash." May 4/97

Dear Dr.

Thanks for yours of 3^d. That is generally the best way to do such things, and I hope you will always give me the same "tip" when you may notice errors of fact in any published writings of mine, that I may correct them.

Since the Bendire record is up, I have looked into ^{it} still more carefully, and find the trail plain. It is all in my Bibliography, but not in a way to be easily discovered, unless one were already in possession of the facts. I enclose the "vouchers" in the case, at your service for any use you may wish to make of them. There may possibly be others, but I know of none. You may like to incorporate ^{them} in your note to Science, to set the Bendire record forth, and after that might pass them over to Knowlton, whom I have asked to see his ^{article} ~~before~~ straight.

— Yes, it is surprisingly true that Mrs. Sheffield's bill was dismissed by the Rockville court, on what looks to those who know the facts like a legal quibble (impeachment of veracity of leading witness to the adultery), not inapossibly mixed also with some local politics. This puts both parties where they were at the beginning. Fortunately, we have nothing to do with this case, or its result. We go into

no question of adultery, cruelty, desertion or
divorce — simply a matter of criminal
libel, malicious, minatory, & obscene, proof
of which is on the face of the published paper;
and the only question for the A.O.U. to consider,
is whether or now to expel Dr. S. for
that action.

Yours truly,
Elihu Cones.

ackd. May 1997

1426 K St., Washⁿ May 6 1897

My dear Dr.

I enclose some more Binswre titles I have found, and which you may like to use with the others I sent you. Possibly Mr. Ridgway might unearth one or two more. I think the list of those of which I am the author is now complete.

Yours,

Edward Coues.

I will have a note in ^{July} ~~Apr.~~ Auk on the subject.

Ans.
x doc. signed
x returned June 22/97

Washington D.C.,
~~June~~ 1726 St.,
AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

June 21 1897.

Dear Doctor: I enclose for your signature a paper which speaks for itself, and I think you will find in good form.

I have all the required documents to prove the change of specifications; also, letter from Mrs. Audubon, as head of the family, desiring the proposed action; also, legal opinion of no liability to be incurred.

On receiving back the paper herewith, I will simply transmit the whole of them to Mr. Brewster.

You were quite right about the earlier date, in Oct. 1896. — Positively, I had never seen that original pamphlet — it is infinitely worse than the brief abstract pub.^d in New York, & subsequently circulated here, upon which I based my former opinion and action.

Truly Yours,

Elliot Coues.

1726 N st., Wash. D.C.
Jan 22 1897

Dear Doctor:

The document to hand safely, & will be sent at once to Mr. Brewster. Glad we are in time - did not know of his intended departure, and am sorry to put this miserable business upon just as he goes.

Mr. Sage is back, I suppose, by this time, or soon will be, & I will write him particularly about observing the required time of notifying the accused & other members. There is nothing else to do that I know of, till next Nov.

I would have signed first, but you "outrank" me in the A.O.U. now, and I naturally give precedence in all officialities.

Yours truly,
Wm. C. Jones.

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ORNITHOLOGY

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The Osprey Company

Publishers of THE OSPREY
61 NORTH PRAIRIE STREET

GALESBURG, ILL.,

Edited by

WALTER ADAMS JOHNSON

Associated with

DR. ELLIOTT COUES,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 29, 1897

Dear Doctor:

I enclose a letter from W.B., which shows everything is all right thus far in the affair. Return it at your convenience.

My idea was to print the charge & specification on a leaflet for distribution to all members of every grade of the A.O.U., in order that the heathly cad might be stigmatized & posted, whatever the final official outcome of the affair. But we must be prudent, and in any event the case we have initiated is already past your control or mine. It is now in the President's hands, & will take its course thence through the Secy to the accused & Council, thence to the active members of the A.O.U.

I leave tomorrow for the summer, but home address will always reach me.

Yours very truly,

Elliott Coues.

Recd. Nov. 1/97.

AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

2736 N. St., Nov. 1, 1897.

My Dear Mr. Merriam:

I think it will be well for us to be advised of each other's whereabouts in N.Y. just before the A.O.U. meeting, and still better for us to be together somewhere for at least one day.

I shall be at the Continental Hotel, corner 20th St. and Broadway, on Sunday, Nov. 1. This is a comfortable place, European plan, room at \$1.⁰⁰ a day, good restaurant, and convenient for access to L. road. If you have not made other arrangements it might suit you for lodgers also. A number of persons will meet me there on Sunday, when I shall make a point of staying in all day & night, so that I can be found. Even if you should be staying elsewhere, would it not be well to spend some time Sunday with me?

On Monday, as you know, we shall be at Dutcher's all day, and evening at the Museum.

I have heard nothing further since we conferred, ^{re} R.W.S., but fully expect to carry our point, and at any rate we should assume that confident expectation in approaching our action. I hope the earwiggling given R.R. has been undone by this time; R. was grossly deceived by S., as usual. If you hear anything of consequence, let me know.

I expect to leave Sat. p.m. & reach N.Y. about 10 p.m.

Sincerely yours,

Elmer Cress.

AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

1726 N st., Wash. D.C., Nov. 5. '97.

Dear Doctor:

Yours duly received—thanks.

I think it will be well for you to arrange to spend some time Sunday at the Continental. Sage writes me he has taken a room there, and will of course have all the papers in his grip. Through everything looks favorable, so far as I can judge, we want to make assurance doubly sure, & not be surprised by some unexpected turn of affairs. To this end, informal conference before we meet in council seems eminently prudent & desirable. I hope I have arranged for the presence of quite a number of "actives." I have a list of 11 and probably 12 who will be in Council. No doubt you have seen Nelson, & put the case properly before him. I have not heard from Mearns, to whom I wrote a letter which should have been answered at once. I hear that the divorce suit for appeal comes up on Nov. 9 or 11, at Annapolis, Md., and should suppose it impossible for R.W.S. to be present, ^{and difficult for him to} be represented, in two places at once! I shall take the train about 3 or 4 p.m. tomorrow for N.Y.

Sincerely yours,

Elliot Coues.

Ans. Nov. 22/97

1726 N STREET,
WASHINGTON, D.C. Nov. 19, 1897.

Dear Merriam:

I have not heard the result of the alarming occasion which hurried you from N.Y., and can only hope that it was favorable.

You have made a friend of me, and some day, perhaps, we will see what was the matter for a good while.

I appreciate the unexpected science of Nov. 2. - If Miss Merriam will send me any book she would like for me to notice, I will see what I can find to say about them she may like to read.

Aftermath of the Union's, or rather the Council's, fiasco in the S. matter is beginning to come in. No use of writing anything just now, but I have some things to tell you & show you. I imagine trouble is not ended, but just begun.

He called the Council down on a bluff, and the ~~other~~ other side laid down the winning hand in a funk. But your skirts & mine are clear. We could do more. If we had raised a row in Union that night, we should have missed the required $\frac{2}{3}$, to S., would have been tried & acquitted. That is the only thing that reconciles me to the result thus far.

The case was smothered in Council - never tried. So it holds over, and we may catch him another year.

Yours cordially,

Edw. Coles.

Recd. & declined
10 am
Nov. 24/97
Miss Merriam's engagement

1726 N STREET,
WASHINGTON, D.C. Nov. 23, 1897.

Dear Doctor:

Suppose you make it tomorrow,
Wednesday, 24th, 6.30 p.m., to dine, on ceremony
or change of dress?

Tomorrow, 4 to 6, I attend with Mrs.
Cones the Art Reception of Mr. Edward Barclay,
an English portrait painter of renown who
has opened a studio in the Corcoran Bldg.,
15th and F. He desires us to invite in his name any
of our friends; and we should be pleased to see
you and Mrs. and Miss Merriam there.

Sincerely yours,

Edward Cones

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Associated with

DR. ELLIOTT COUES,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dec. 5. 1897.

Dear Merriam:

You may like to see the
Enclosed, which please return.

S. seems to be on the warpath,
and I fancy the Union will work to find
they had fired him & been done with it-
before they get through with his cavorting.
However, we may catch him another year,
on three countercharges against two of our
members - certainly a matter over which the
Union has "jurisdiction."

Yours cordially,

Elliott Coues.

1726 H St., Washⁿ. Dec. 21/98



My Dear Dr.:

Please tell me what species of
Speomophile or chipmunk is so extremely
common about Fort Tejon, Cal., and in the
southern part of the Tulare Valley, that it
forms, or did form years ago, a regular
article of food for the Indians, and quite
a considerable item in their bill of fare.
In some places in the valley, my old traveller says,
the ground was honey-combed with burrows,
making riding dangerous.

Also, as an alternative, is there a
Sciurus proper or a *Neotoma* there, common
enough to fill the bill?

Truly Yours.

Elliot Coues.

The animal is
Speomophile heechyi - Coues

1726 N STREET,
WASHINGTON, D.C. Dec. 25, 1897.

Dear Merriam:

Yes, A. and his V. is certainly a superb work, as you say. It would naturally have come to my desk for review in the N. Y. Nation and Post, but I am of course disbarred by the appearance of my name on the title-page. So I told Mr. Garrison you were probably the best man he could find, and am glad to learn he sent it to you. You are in entire sympathy both with the author & her subject, and at the same time competent to be a critical judge. I shall expect a good article from your pen, from a literary as well as a scientific standpoint; and when your check falls in, you will see ^{one} difference between Nation & Science. I would advise you to dwell particularly upon the Missouri River Journal, as the most of a novelty, of special importance & interest, quite beyond ornithology or mammalogy. It is a fresh & notable contribution to "Americana", in the history, geography & biography of the Missouri region of half a century ago.

Cordially Yours,
Carr.

Acld. Jan. 13, 1898.

1726 N STREET,
WASHINGTON, D.C. Jan. 9, 1898.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I do not know whether or not you are aware, that the U.S. Geological Survey has in possession a large number of plates which were made many years ago, at an expense of perhaps \$10,000, for a work of mine on N.A. Mammals which was never completed & never will be. In conversation with Prof. Wedcott, a year or two ago, regarding their disposition, I said in substance that I did not care what he might do ~~for~~ with them, provided he did not let you have them. I have just written to him that you are welcome to them, so far as any rights of mine in the premises may be concerned, and I should think you might find some of them handy for your own publications. Under these circumstances, I suppose he will turn the whole lot over to you, if you ask him to do so; and all you have to do for me in return, if you use any of the plates, is a word regarding the way in which you became possessed of them. Some of them will print good pictures, and most of them ought to be utilized. According to my recollections, they are mostly wood cuttings by Nichols. When I last saw them they filled several drawers of a cabinet in the large upstairs room of the U.S.G.S.

Cordially yours,

Elliot Coues.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan. 13, 1898.

GALESBURG, ILL.,

Dear Merriam:

I enclose a couple of letters which speak for themselves. The writers have got a change of heart, and it must be great, if Allen is ready for "apressive action." I fancy nobody ^{else} was quite as comfortable over the same last Nov. as you and me.

Brewster is calling a meeting of the H. O. U. Comm. for Jan. 31, and then we can discuss the need situation. In my view it is very simple, - to have any body except you or me prefer charges agt. S. for those charges agt. us. If we are liars, etc., as he says, we ought to be expelled. If he proves to be the liar, etc., he ought to be expelled. And the case is certainly within the "jurisdiction" of the H. O. U., as it relates entirely to official actions of three of our members. I suppose the charges agt. you worry you as much as those agt. me do me, and that you will stand your trial with equal alacrity!

Please tell that I get a copy of your Science review of Audubon, as I don't take the periodical now.

Hope to see you at the Art Reception on Saturday p.m.

Yours cordially
Elliott Coues

AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE
DEVOTED TO THE IN-
TERESTS OF
ORNITHOLOGY

THE LEADING MONTHLY FOR
BIRD-STUDENTS IN
AMERICA

The Osprey Company

Publishers of THE OSPREY

~~61 NORTH PRAIRIE STREET~~

~~GALESBURG, ILL.,~~

Edited by

WALTER ADAMS JOHNSON

Associated with

DR. ELLIOTT COUES,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan. 27. 1898.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

On looking over my file
of N. A. F. n., I find it complete excepting
Nos. 6 and 9. If you will kindly supply
them I shall be much obliged.

Very Truly yours,

Elliott Coues.

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Jan. 27. 1898

GALESBURG, ILL.,

Dear Doctor:

Since I wrote you this morning I have
looked over a great quantity of shrew MS. & drawings,
prepared about 20 years ago, and enclose 3
colored drawings which perhaps you can
identify for me.

Also some MS. from Harlan, whom
Miller does not appear to have examined. This in-
cludes an unnoticed synonym.

Excepting the miscount of teeth of microsorex,
I am surprised & gratified to find my early
studies, on poor & scanty material, showing
up so well in the light of late researches.

Yours,

Elliott Coues.

Dear Dr. " If you would like to know the type locality of
Vespertilio macropus, H. Allen, given in his monogr. 2d
as "near Fort Major", it is Pute Springs, about 20 m.
W. of Fort Mojave, where I shot the type specimen,
Oct. 30, 1865.

Elliott Coues,
Jan. 30, 1898.

= Myotis yumanensis (H. Allen)

Entered on type card
J.S.P.

Oct. 4/98
J.S.P.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - 2
POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.
JAN 3 1230 PM '98

United States of America.

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Chf. Biological Survey,
Dept. of Agriculture,
Wash., D.C.

AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE
DEVOTED TO THE IN-
TERESTS OF
ORNITHOLOGY

THE LEADING MONTHLY FOR
YOUTHFUL STUDENTS IN
AMERICA

The Osprey Company

Publishers of THE OSPREY

61 NORTH PRAIRIE STREET

Edited by

WALTER ADAMS JOHNSON

Associated with

DR. ELLIOTT COUES,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Feb. 19. 1898.

GALESBURG, ILL.,

Dear Doctor: We want your portrait for an Osprey soon. Johnson said something to me, exactly what it was I have forgotten, but in substance that you didn't care to have it go in. Perhaps your objections, if you really have any, can be overcome, if I wish it, and if you will send me a photo, with permission to use it, I will see that it goes in with a proper notice, & which I will attend myself. Sorry you can't identify Dugès shrews.

I once received a very large lot of small bird & mammal, and colored pictures of museum birds & mammals, and have them yet, if I could find them. Always supposed that Nova Scotia shrew of Gilpin's a freak, & never thought of publishing Sorex pygmaeus.

Yes the Nation is in no hurry about that. Have no idea what is the hitch; but I know Mr. Garrison is still rushed with Christmas after math, & suppose your Audubon

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DR. ELLIOTT COUES,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

was pretty long. I have had ^{GALESBURG, ILL.} several pieces in
the last few weeks, but all short notes—
no headed reviews. "Birds of Village & Field"
is on my desk, but not yet with author's
autograph, which I expected.

I am writing Dr. Fisher about several
of my old Arizona "topo types" later, &c.

Cordially yours,

Elliott Coues.

1726 St. St., Feb. 21. 1898.

My dear Doctor:

All right about that matter of
your ante-mortem Obituary, which I won't press
upon you if you feel that way.

At the same time, it is a question
of the P. & V. = P's A.O.U., though not put that way in
the Osprey. Coates & Elliot have appeared Brewster in
hand for next number, Allen and Ridgway in immediate
prospect, and then I suppose my venerable Editor-in-Chief
will go among the younger members or smaller fry for his
further instalments of the "rogue's gallery."

I thought your Nation article w'd be getting in
the current pigeon-hole about now. That I shall see,
but you may send me the Science review.

Cordially yours,

Edward Coates

I feel too sick
to stay long - please
call up Gill's paper
- E C

Recd. from Dr. Cams at A.O.U. meeting
Oct. 16, 1898, when I was in the chair - *Cam*

Recd. &
Anch. Nov. 1/98.

1726 N st., Oct. 23. 1898.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The enclosed will please you as much as it does me, I suppose.

There must be some way of preventing an innocuous member from inflicting an objectionable paper, or we had better let the Union go to the Dominion brooms.

I think we have a standing Committee for the purpose of passing upon papers offered, and it could now be better utilized than in this case.

If you will bestir yourself in this matter I will do the same.

Sincerely Yours,

Elisabeth C. Jones.

1726 N st., Nov. 6, 1898.

Dear Dr. Merriam: Have been sick ached, with something suspiciously like my old enemy, the grippe, and just up today.

I don't know whether I am chmn. of our reception committee or not. Anyhow, you and Fisher can go ahead, and whatever you do will suit me. Or, I should be glad to see you both here any day, to discuss any point, as I can hardly hope to be out this week. I presume you have already acted to some extent, as recy notifies me of selection of Army Med. Mus. for place of meeting. I hope you will be able to entertain the Council this year; should like to myself, but cannot very well do so.

As you and Sage are $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Comm. on Communications, you can easily keep that obnoxious individual from disporting himself. All you have to do is to report unfavorably on his paper, & say no more. I believe it is in Sage's hands. As Brewster is sick, I suppose you will be practically "boss" of the coming affair.

Cordially yours,

Ellis Cones.

In our minutes:

p. 5. *Branta b. glaucogastra*: not "as a straggler," but as the regular
N. Am. form (chiefly Eastern), as distinguished from European.

p. 6. *Hirundo*. Add: to which type it was definitely restricted by Schaeffer,
Elemen. Orn. 177-8, p. 7 pl.

p. 6. *Clivicola*. Add. as it has no priority over *Rufaria*, ~~and~~
its mere anteriority being offset by the first reviewer's
choice of *Clivicola*.

10.7 *Spectylo*: Give as reason "no characters."

Astragalinus t. salicamarum; Authority: A.O.U. *Corum*?

p. 9. *Megascops* Add: in consequence of reidentification of *Wayler's*
species

p. 10 *Phaethon rubricauda*: not "adopted," but admitted to C.L. as straggler.

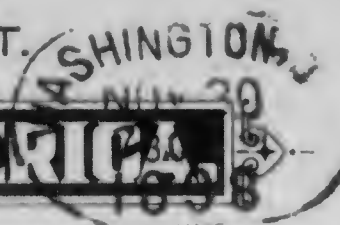
- E. C.

1746

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.



THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Mr. Merriam,
Biological Survey
Agric. Dept.
City.

Nov. 30. 1898.

My Dear Doctor:

Thanks for my copy of the
Minutes just received. It has the defects
you name, but as you say these can
easily be remedied. Now that Allen
is doubtless struggling with the matter
— for he has practically to edit this
MS. for San Antonio, — suppose we
each help out his memory & any
points that may be obscure.
I suppose ^{also,} we shall each receive
proofs of his article, and between
the 4 of us it ought to come
out straight.

Cordell Green,
St. Louis

THE OSPREY CO.,
321-323 4½ ST. N. W.,

Recd. Feb. 12/99

Washington, D. C. 1726 N. W., Feb. 10/99.

My Dear Doctor:

You may possibly remember letting Mr. W. A. Johnson have for the Osprey use of your cut of Felis hyppolestes. At that time he was thinking of branching out into "all nature", but ~~now~~ I shall lead the Osprey to ornithology. So I have on hand a picture I can't use, unless we can devise some way of working it in ornithologically, and it is such a striking object I should like to print it, with due acknowledgment of your kindness. Now can't you think of some way of joining a cougar and a bird together, and let us have a little article, which need not be over a column, or even less, "written up" to the plate? I need not add, that I should be pleased to have you among the Osprey's friends & contributors.

Cordially yours,

Ellis Coues.

THE OSPREY CO.,

321-323 4½ St. N. W.,

1726 N st.,
Washington. D. C. Feb. 13. 1899.

My Dear Merriam:

I like your letter! That sort
of language suits me - especially when it is on my
side of the fence. I suppose you know I am the un-
happy editor of the Osprey, and that G. is the "Co."
I have been talking just that way to him since we
began. That printer is simply killing the magazine.
I wish you would express yourself to like effect
when you see G., and see if you can move him.
I can't - or haven't succeeded in so doing, so far.
I have sent him your letter, as a gentle reminder
of just what I have said to him since last October.

Cordially Yours,

Elliot Coues.



1726 N. St., Oct. 21.

My Dear Merriam:

I am afraid that I cannot help you out directly with our friends Severtzow & ~~Bodg~~ Bogdanow. Have gone through several of my name-lists in vain. My impression is, that Severtzow is in Moscow. But your notification could hardly go astray, if you should address it, with a "please forward," to Care G. S. London, 3, Hanover Square, or Care B. O. W., 6, Tenterden St. Don't know what else you can do, unless you alight on the address yourself.

Allen probably has not got it, else
it would appear on that list we
made out together, and which you
have in my handwriting.

Truly yours,

Elliott Coues.

Dr. C. H. Merriam,

Locust Grove, N.Y.

MTV 14

Dear Sir

Yr pleasant
note to hand - glad
you take my remarks
in such good
part

I enclose the
pagination of
Rev. B. Conn. in
work form
agree with
Trans. Conn. Acad?

please answer
at once. If not
to what page
of Trans. does your
p. 1 correspond?

What page of
Linsley Am. Journ
does the name
Erythra auricollis
come on?

Yrs truly
E. B.

1726 St., Mar. 6.

Dear Doctor:

Much obliged for two copies
of Science. - You even showed a better sense
of fitness of things than in modeling
your two reviews on such different lines
in Tration & Sci.

My Science is no doubt a slip, as you
say: the Dynchomys I had put, in a note I duly
affixed to proofs, but it failed to stick there.

Sincerely yours,

Elliot Cress.

1/26 N. M.

Washington D.C.

May 25th 1900

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I send you this
to say that the interment
of my husband will take
place on Monday May 28th
at 11 a.m. Lot 473.

Arlington - I do not wish
you to think I feel it
a necessary courtesy on
your part, for all expenses
was paid on Dec 30th.

There will be no services.

I only wished you to
know of the fact, & if

You wish. a father I will
say ~~can~~ come. I shall be
pleased to see you. I know
that your busy life is &
shall fully understand
your absence.

Remember me kindly
to Mr. Merriman &

Believe me

Yours sincerely

M. E. Coates

Recd. & ansd. at Lyons Falls
N.Y. May 26, 1900 -
can

Coulter, J. M. (John Merle), 1851-1928

1890-1915

83/129
c

ansd. Feb. 5/90.

Crawfordsville, Ind., Feb'y 3, '90.

My dear Merriam:

Rose has doubtless explained
my sudden disappearance. I find my
family better, but needing my presence.
I am very sorry to have missed your
chaper at the Cosmos Sat. night, &
also your dinner Sunday, but you can
fully appreciate the situation. Give
my kindest regards to Mrs. Merriam -

I remain

Sincerely yrs -

John M. Coulter.

Lake Forest University.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Lake Forest, Ill., January 14, 1895.

Dear Merriam:

I must congratulate you on the paper on geographical distribution as controlled by temperature. I have read it with great pleasure and have prepared a notice of it in the Gazette. You are surely getting at these things in a way that seems thoroughly satisfactory.

Yours as ever

John M. Coulter

Dictated.

The University of Chicago

February 8, 1898.



Dear Merriam:-

A new journal, with the title "Nature and Art Magazine", has been started in Chicago. Its main feature is a fine process of color photography, by which unusually attractive plates are produced. Perhaps you have seen this process in "Birds".

The real purpose of the magazine is to provide supplementary reading for nature study in the Primary and Secondary Schools, and to be taken into the home for young people. Going as it does into thousands of schools and homes, it is a great audience to speak to.

Each number will contain eight plates, and eight papers upon some special theme. This monograph plan it is believed will make the bound volumes better for consultation. It is desired to have the text prepared by those who are authorities, so that some real view of nature may be brought to the teachers as well as the pupils.

The style should be simple and the matter interesting to the school children. Each of the eight articles is limited to 2000 words. The general subject for the March number is "Lakes and Rivers", and we would very much like for you to prepare the text for the special topic "Life on the Water^(Water birds)". I enclose an order on the firm for \$20.00 in payment for the 2000 words, and hope that you can send them to me by February 25. Please consider this a great opportunity of speaking to a very large and important audience that needs truth rather than twaddle.

Yours truly,

John M. Coulter

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

U. S. Dept. of Agric.
Washington, D.C.

*Declined into
Charles & returned
check - C.H.M.*

The University of Chicago

Department of Botany

Recd. March 14, 1901.
The Botanical Gazette

March 12, 1901.

My dear Merriam:-

I notice that volume II of the Proceedings of the Washington Academy of Sciences is completed. I find that I have a bound copy of volume I, also a paper covered copy of the same volume, and also all of the separate brochures of volume II excepting those which I sent to you last November. What I wish to secure is a bound copy of volume II, and if you will let me know what it takes in the way of exchange or money, I shall arrange for it at once.

Yours truly,

Mr. C. Hart Merriam,

Washington, D.C.

John M. Coulter

The University of Chicago

Department of Botany

The Botanical Gazette

January 15, 1902.

My dear Dr. Merriam:-

In looking over my brochures of the Proceedings of the Washington Academy of Sciences for 1901, in order to take advantage of your offer in reference to a bound volume, I discover that a batch of them has never been received. These extend from page 371 to 568, as indicated by your table of contents for the volume, and include nine papers as listed. I think that this whole bunch must have been done up together and that it went astray. If you can credit me with these brochures, I will send the remaining ones for the year and secure the bound volume.

Hereafter I think I should prefer to receive the bound volume at the end of the year, rather than the separate brochures. I take it for granted that authors of botanical papers will send me their separates for proper notice in the BOTANICAL GAZETTE.

Yours sincerely,

John M. Coulter

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

Washington, D.C.

adid. + said ok
July 17, 1915

Cloyne Court

Berkeley - July 16

My dear Merriam:

I have worked out a schedule which can include a day with you, provided it is convenient. I want you to be entirely frank about it, for I know you are likely to have engagements that will interfere.

We can come over on next Thursday evening (July 22) & spend Friday, returning to San Francisco early enough Sat. to catch a morning train for Palo Alto. You spoke of a 5:45 train, which I judge means the time at the S.F. Ferry for Sausalito. In any event, I can probably get the details from Hall. Your invitation was too tempting to be refused.

Yours sincerely - John M. Culler.

Cloyne Court - Berkeley
July 20 [1915]

My dear Merriam:

I have your letter of July 17, with its very satisfactory directions as to reaching Lagunitas. I am sorry that I cannot take the 3:45 train on Thursday, for I realize that the later one will be more inconvenient for you. However, I am playing "hooky" with my classes on Friday, & it would not do to add Thursday. Accordingly, I cannot be free on Thursday until 3:00 P.M., & to catch that 3:45 train would be too much of a chance, as the wife would have to be called for & she is in no condition to sprint.

We are looking forward with great pleasure to our glimpse of your region & your home in the wild region -

Yours sincerely,

John M. Coulter

He & Mrs. Coulter
left Berkeley
July 22 - 1915
July 24, 1915 -

Council, Walter Wooten

1917

Re bears killed near Cordova, Alaska

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 5 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.
Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway
Cordova, Alaska

Ans'd. Aug. 14, 1917

July 28, 1917

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
#1919 - Sixteenth St.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter regarding shipment or collecting of big bear skulls of the Copper River region came to me about two weeks too late for me to be able to secure any bears killed this season in this district. Although there were a great number of bears killed no one brought in any skulls and I was unable to get in touch with anyone who had any skulls of big bears killed in this region.

In the future I shall be glad to ship you all the skulls I am able to secure. Do you wish skulls from the Katalla and Suckling area or the Island's of Prince William Sound, such as Montigue and Hinchbrook where there are a large number of bears found?

I presented to your friend Mr. Cutting a skull of a bear killed by myself in the Spring of 1916 which was mailed to you and which I hope reached you in good shape.

Any additional information about the bears of this region I can give you, I will be pleased to lend my assistance towards the making of your work a success.

Yours very truly,

WWC/d

W. W. Council

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 6 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.

Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway

Cordova, Alaska

D. C. Hart Merriam

Washington
D.C.

Dear Sir

Since writing to you I was able to secure the skull of a male brown bear killed on the Copper River about mile 60. I have shipped this skull to you labeled as a Black bear skull. There was some discussion as to the legality of shipping out skulls of brown bears so to avoid any delay I shipped it as a black one. Make check for same Payable to L. Walen.

Very truly yours

W. W. Council

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 5 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.

Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway
Cordova, Alaska

Ans'd Jan. 12, 1918

Dec 18th 1917

Dr C. Hart Merriam

Washington
D C

Dear Sir

About six weeks past I shipped
you the skull of a large male bear
from the Copper River country.

I have tried to secure the skulls
of a male and female which were killed
on Hinchbrook Island last spring.
The indian who killed them went
back for the skulls, but returned
with the report that they were
so badly shattered as to be
worthless. I have the promise
of a large male skull which
was killed upon Montague
Island this last spring. but as

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 6 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.

Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway

Cordova, Alaska

yet the hog has not brought it in.
I wish to relate to you an instance
of an unprovoked attack upon three
men August 16th of this year.
Upon that Earl Hirst and two others were
crossing the divide between the
Tokio and Robinson rivers on the
Tanana watershed. They were going
after sheep and they had three pack
horses with them. Hirst was leading
one of the horses Matson was leading
two of them while the
third man walked about
thirty yards in front of Hirst
Matson bringing up the rear
with the two pack horses

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 6 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.

Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway

Cordova, Alaska

They were above timber line and could see for a mile or more any object as large as a bear. Suddenly a large bear rushed up from behind & passed between the two rear horses and Matson knocked down First and hit him in the top of the head. The man in front turned and shot the bear which then left First and charged him, but with such force that he was able to side step it, and the bear ran by for several yards and turned and came back. First had by this time recovered enough to open fire and the

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 6 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.

Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway
Cordova, Alaska

head was dispatched.
First was brought to me for treatment
a four day journey. The entire
scalp over an area of about 4x6 inches
had been removed.

First was under treatment about
2 1/2 months. He has returned to
that section and promised to
send me the skull.

First was so badly hurt that
they never examined to see whether
it was a male or female.
They were sure that this head
must have followed them for
a mile and a half or more
and it seemed to be very
much wind-blown as if it
had run a great distance

Office Hours

10 to 12 a. m.

1 to 6 p. m.

Cordova General Hospital

W. W. Council, M. D.

Surgeon Copper River & Northwestern Railway
Cordova, Alaska

There were no cubs within a
mile of them.

All of the details can be secured
by writing Earl Hirst Gulkana
Alaska

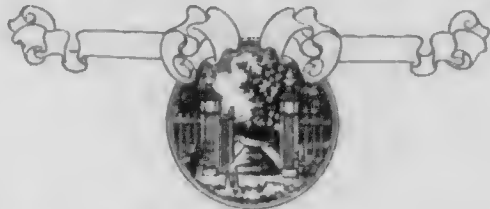
Very truly yours
W. W. Council

Country, Life

1920

83/129
C

Country Life
GARDEN CITY NEW YORK



October 4th, 1920

*Recd. from Lepanto
Oct. 31, 1920
No photos sent*

Dear Dr. Merriam:

We are planning to publish in Country Life a set of photographs of prominent naturalists, and I feel the list would be far from complete if it did not include you. Some of the others whose pictures we are using are Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, Dr. Frank M. Chapman, John Burroughs, William Beebe, etc.

Might I ask you to cooperate with us to the extent of sending us a photograph of yourself?

Thanking you in anticipation,

Sincerely yours,

Reginald T. Townsend
Managing Editor.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th St., Washington, D.C.

Country life in America

1911

by Wilhelm Miller

83/129
c

THE WORLD'S WORK

THE
CHILDREN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA
OF WORK AND PLAY

DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & COMPANY



THE COUNTRY LIFE PRESS
GARDEN CITY, N. Y.

COUNTRY LIFE IN AMERICA

THE GARDEN MAGAZINE
THE
NATURE LIBRARY

October 16th, 1911.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam,
Division Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have greatly enjoyed studying "Life Zones and Crop Zones", which is Bulletin 10 of the Division of Biological Survey, and would be very glad to get up to date along these lines. Is there a more recent edition of this bulletin which I could have? Can you send me any other free literature ~~on this subject~~ along these lines, or give me a list of the most important publications of the Biological Survey?

During the next year, I wish to study our longest-lived trees, both native and exotic, in order to prepare a series of arti-

cles for THE GARDEN MAGAZINE. The illustrations will be from century-old places in America, and I have accumulated a good many pictures already. I shall have a similar series in COUNTRY LIFE IN AMERICA on lessons from old gardens. I particularly wish to know whether you have distributed the forest and ornamental trees of the country in the different life zones laid down in Bulletin 10.

Yours faithfully,

Wilhelm Miller

Editorial Department,
COUNTRY LIFE IN AMERICA

*And at Lafayette, Calif.
Nov. 23, 1911. - cm*

Coville, Cabot

1919-1928

1928 letter by his wife [Lillian?]

Hotel Roberts
W.D. ROBERTS
PROVO, UTAH.
PROPRIETOR

Acld. July 23, 1919

June 19, 1919.

Dear Dr. Merriam:-

I hope that this letter finds you in Lagunitas, but perhaps it will not. I'll have to take a chance on it.

I'm here attending a convention of Telluride Association, an organization wh- with which Deep Springs Ranch is indirectly connected. I haven't had so much spare time since I left Washington. It feels queer to sit in a hotel and actually have time to write letters, after having worked my head off for a year.

My work this year was largely mechanical jobs in the garage, and so I did very little work in the nature line. I'm ashamed of the little I know about the plants and birds and animals of that vicinity after having lived there a year. Next year, if I go back (mother and

Hotel Roberts
W. D. ROBERTS
PROPRRIETOR
PROVO, UTAH.

father are in favor of my going to college), I have planned will be an outdoor one, with as much riding and nature work as possible. It would give me a real western taste of the west, instead some distinctly eastern mechanical work.

During the Easter vacation I went down to Los Angeles to see Katharine and Chester, and had a glimpse of the southern California coast country. It was the first trip to the Pacific coast that I had had made since the summer of 1902. The country west of the Sierras is the real California. Deep Springs Valley is more typical of Nevada.

Mr. Tidestrom, one of the botanists at the department, hit Deep Springs just before I left. He has been collecting the plants of Nevada. His means of travel is by motorcycle — a light Cleve-

Hotel Roberts
PROVO, UTAH.

W. D. ROBERTS
PROPRIETOR

land, which is not good for that country except for work like his where he wishes to stop every few miles. He has been tracing Coville of Death Valley particularly, and has located it further north than it was previously supposed to go. The two of us spent a very pleasant day together collecting in Wyman Canyon, a canyon off the northwest corner of the valley.

Have you your Oakland with you? Your neighborhood must offer some great opportunities for trips into the surrounding country.

Where is Harry Nelson? I have not heard from him since I answered a letter of his last summer inquiring about the ranch.

Please give my regards to the rest of the family.

Very truly yours,
Cabot Coville

Telluride Association

Deep Springs, California.
March 14, 1921.

Ans'd. March 25
1921

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919-16th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Since your letter to me of June, 1919, I have attempted to locate for you such abodes of Panamint Shoshone Indians as might be found in this locality. I am prepared to say now that there are none. I have tried to get information on the subject from all the old Indians coming through here who have the reputation of knowing something of tribal history and who keep in close contact with all local Indian matters; but not once have I gotten any satisfaction, except positive statements that there are no Panamints in this immediate region. I have not been able to do any inquiring further south, but I believe that you could get more satisfaction there.

Does Washington seem the same as ever?
It must be somewhat changed since March 4.

It is so long since I have been home for any length of time that I fear I shall hardly know the place when I go east next year to go to college.

Yes, California is a great place; but if you want to see California at its best, you better sell your place on the coast, and move inland — east of the Sierras. Dry climate, wonderful views, and just enough of change in weather and obstacles in the way of development to keep the population on their mettle — all these things make your easy, monotonous, tropical life on the coast seem like absolutely nothing. That may be all right for an occasional outing, but for regular living give me a place where there are just enough difficulties to overcome to make a person think he's really accomplishing something.

I hope that your whole family is prospering. Please give them all my best regards.

Very truly yours,

Cabot Coville

Kanagawa, Japan.

July 12th, 1928.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Merriam,

I thank you ever so
much for the lace
handkerchiefs you gave
me as a wedding present
last July. I think they
are lovely and we appreciate

your that very much.

I am awfully sorry that
I have not been able to
write before.

We are studying hard
now trying to get ahead of
the schedule so we can
take a vacation when
father and mother come.
In just weeks we expect

to meet them some place in
Japan — at the we don't
know yet exactly where.

We are now plodding
thro' the Geography of the
World — written in Chinese
characters — and studying
by Japanese school children.
I think father would ^{be} ashamed
of his daughter if he could
see her studying the map!

We've also learned lots

about the leavers of the world. Calist says

To meet them some place in
 Japan — All we don't
 know yet exactly where.
 We are now studying
 the Geography of the
 World — written in Chinese
 characters — and studying
 by Japanese school children.
 I think father would be pleased
 of his daughter if he could
 see her studying the way.
 We also learned to

about the bears of the world. Cabot says
 he thinks we are now qualified bear
 experts too. Here is a plain bear. 熊

And this is a polar bear 北極熊 Our
 teacher says there are no other kinds of
 bear.

Cabot sends his regards to the whole
 family and the bears and Indians, too.

Again many thanks from us

Love — Sincerely,
 Lillian Grosvenor Coville

Coville, Frederick V. (Frederick Varnon), 1867-1937

1893-1933

Some written in behalf of the
National Geographic Society

83/109
C

Recd. & ackd.
Aug. 15/93 - can

10 Lewis Street, Lockport,
N. Y.

August 13, 1893.

(Aug. 17, 1 A.M.)

My dear Doctor:

The boy came on the stage at 10 o'clock, and is now comfortably sleeping. Beth is resting very nicely and the household after standing around the hall for a while in all sorts of curious dresses have finally turned in.

The infant hasn't been weighed, but I judge that he wouldn't go over fifteen pounds. If Mrs. Merriam wants to trade, I would consider an offer of three or four

girls and a building lot.

By the way won't you
tell Dewey that I want
a press, seventy five driers,
and four quires of white
pressing paper sent to me,
Co A-A-A-S., Madison, Wiscon-
sin.

Yours hastily

Fredrick V. Coville

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
DIVISION OF BOTANY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 23, 1899

Dear Dr. Merriam,

Mr Rose and I
have looked at the *Santellaria*
from Shasta, and without
better material we cannot
separate it from nana.
If it came from timber line,
however, it ought to be different.

Very truly yours
Frederick Coville,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
DIVISION OF BOTANY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Rose:

Is this *Pentstemon*
menziesii or *P. davidsonii*. The
type of the former was from Nootka
on Vancouver Island, of the latter
from the high Sierra from south
central California. Greene
puts this with *menziesii*
but without going into it
critically I have called
it *davidsonii*.

F. V. C.

Over

Mr. Coville:

In Mr. Rose's absence
I have looked this up for you. It matches
our material of Davidsonii much
more closely than Menziesii except
that the corolla-tube is somewhat
shorter. The foliage is identical
with that of Davidsonii

P

CVG

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

OFFICE OF
BOTANICAL INVESTIGATIONS.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 5, 1905.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Academy of Sciences,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Your letter of September 23 was received a few days ago. Mr. Wight will be back in Washington from his European trip on the 20th of October. I expect to have the Alaskan manuscript ready to turn over to you on the 1st of January. We shall use all our energies to get it completed by that date.

Since my return from Vienna, the second week in July, I have spent all my time at Washington except a few days on my New Hampshire place.

Very sincerely yours,

Frederick V. Coville

*Recd. & filed at San Francisco
Oct. 18, 1905 - C.M.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 7, 1915.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

1919 Sixteenth St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Mr. Abrams' *Arctostaphylos* or *Uva-ursi*, as he calls it, was published August 31, 1914, in Part I of Volume 29, North American Flora. This Part can be obtained for \$2.00 from the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York City.

Very sincerely yours,

Frederick J. Coville,
Botanist.

FVC/M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5, 1915.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

1919 Sixteenth St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The photograph from Wyoming, accompanying your letter of January 29, is apparently Galium boreale, sometimes known by the book name northern bedstraw.

The identification of a plant from a picture alone is largely guess work. I hope that you will urge your correspondent always to make a good herbarium specimen of the plant which he photographs and then deposit his specimens in some established herbarium with a set of the pictures. His series of photographs will then have a real scientific value because it will always be possible to verify the identity of the plant. If your correspondent wishes to file such a set of photographs and plants at the National Herbarium, we shall be very glad to receive them. An Idaho photographer has recently availed himself of such a suggestion of mine.

Very truly yours,

Frederick C. Coville

Botanist.

FVC/M

Ans'd. Feb. 8, 1915

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15, 1915.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

1919 Sixteenth St.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The photograph you send with your letter of February 8 looks like the cow parsnip, Heracleum lanatum. This time, again, I would not like to speak with certainty. Heracleum lanatum is edible but some of its relatives are deadly poisons.

Can you get your odoriferous friend, Mr. Leek, to send us in some specimens in support of these photographs?

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Frederick S. Coville

Botanist.

FVC/M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

Ans'd, March 3, 1917.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23, 1917.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

The Northumberland,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I am enclosing a copy of my correspondence with
Mr. Witmer Stone regarding a trip to the pine barrens.
April is a little early for a trip in that country but it
might be worth while to try it nevertheless.

Very truly yours,

Fredrick J. Coville.

Botanist.

FVC/M

February 15, 1917.

Mr. Witmer Stone,

Academy of Natural Sciences,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Stone:

I have been carrying on experimental work in blueberry culture at Whitesbog, near Browns Mills, New Jersey, since 1911, in cooperation with Miss Elizabeth C. White of New Lisbon, New Jersey, and this work has taken me on many trips to Whitesbog. I have acquired no general familiarity, however, with the pine barren region and I should like very much indeed to visit some of the choice botanical areas in the pine barrens.

Your Plants of Southern New Jersey I have consulted extensively at various times and I have had a great deal of pleasure in using it in this way.

I wonder whether you are so situated that we could take a brief trip together in the pine barrens some time during the coming spring or early summer. In conversation with Dr. C. Hart Merriam, about the pine barrens, he expressed also a desire to see that country and he thought it possible that he might be able to do so, if you could spare the time to accompany us.

W.S.-2-

The blueberry plantation at Whitesbog now covers about ten acres and I think that you would find a visit to it interesting in various ways. I hope to be able to go up there in May when the bushes are in flower. About July 10 I again go to Whitesbog and perhaps stay for a week or more, when the blueberries are in fruit. Many thousand bushes will come into bearing this year and it is necessary to make selections of the best plants for propagation by cuttings.

I shall be glad to know whether it will be practicable for us to make a trip to the pine barrens together.

Very truly yours,

Frederick V. Coville

Botanist.

February 17, 1917.

My dear Mr. Coville,

I have long been planning to get Dr. Merriam over to the plains, one of the most interesting spots in the pines, and it would be delightful to arrange a trip with you both. There is only one hitch and that is that I am thinking of going down to South Carolina about May 1st for several weeks which would be just the time that you would be coming up.

Should you and Dr. Merriam be able to come up in April I might go along with you. The plant life would not be in bloom but it would be pleasant traveling and Schizaea could be seen in fruit.

As to later in the early summer or any time after June 1st I am at your service and shall be delighted to go anywhere you may prefer. Atsion is a good place, also Chatsworth, and if I have a cottage at Cape May as I had last year we could go from there to the bog at Bennett.

We shall have mosquitos after June 1, but I guess we can stand them.

If my South Carolina trip falls through I shall let you know, otherwise I fear I cannot arrange a spring trip except in April.

Sincerely yours,

Witmer Stone.

February 17, 1917.

My dear Mr. Coville,

I have long been planning to get Dr. Merriam over to the plains, one of the most interesting spots in the pines, and it would be delightful to arrange a trip with you both. There is only one hitch and that is that I am thinking of going down to South Carolina about May 1st for several weeks which would be just the time that you would be coming up.

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We shall have mosquitos after June 1, but I guess we can stand them.

If my South Carolina trip falls through I shall let you know, otherwise I fear I cannot arrange a spring trip except in April.

Sincerely yours,

Witmer Stone.

Mr. Witmer Stone,

Academy of Natural Sciences,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Stone:

I am greatly obliged for your letter of February 17. I hope you will let me know later what your engagements are for the spring. I fear that April would not be a satisfactory time for a trip so far as Dr. Merriam is concerned for almost all the vegetation will be still dormant. I shall doubtless be situated so that I myself can make a trip with you in July but Dr. Merriam, I think, will be out of the city at that time. If you do not go south in May that would undoubtedly be the best season for the New Jersey expedition.

Very truly yours,

Fredrick D. Coville

Botanist.

FVC/M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., September 21, 1918.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, Cal.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I know of no sensitiveness of the growing tips of plants due to their propinquity alone to other objects, without contact. There are claims, by English writers, of growth stimulation and retardation by electric currents, but our careful investigators are unable to confirm these alleged electrical effects. Is it not possible that the phenomena you cite are the result of the reduction of light as the growing tips approach the overhanging branches. Many plants, especially conifers, are extremely sensitive to seemingly small differences in the amount of light they receive. I suggest that you test the differences in light in the growing and non-growing situations by means of the actinometer that you use in determining the proper exposure of a photographic plate.

The best way to keep a soil acid is to start with it acid, making up a mixture of one part of clean sand or quartz gravel to about two parts of your acid upland peat formation (the half rotted leaf layer that you find in your virgin forest), and then keep it acid by sifting over it once a year an inch or so of the same upland peat or about six inches

Recd. Oct. 20, 1918

of the freshly fallen leaves from which the peat is formed. It is extremely difficult to keep just the right balance of acidity by adding an actual acid solution to an alkaline soil, but when you use a soil of upland peat the rainwater extracts from it a soil solution of just about the right degree of acidity, and the plants are continually fed exactly what they want.

Cabot's address is Deep Springs Ranch, Big Pine, Cal. It seems that they call the valley Deep Spring Valley, but the ranch Deep Springs Ranch.

I wish that I might spend a year in California, but I don't see how it can be done. Living with the live plants is certainly the way to find out about them.

Very sincerely yours,

Fredrick V. Coville

Botanist.

Dec. 28, 1918

Dear Dr. Merriam:

These papers may interest you and it is possible that you may sometime be on the Cottage ~~Love~~ - Crescent City trail in May. Let me have the originals back, please.

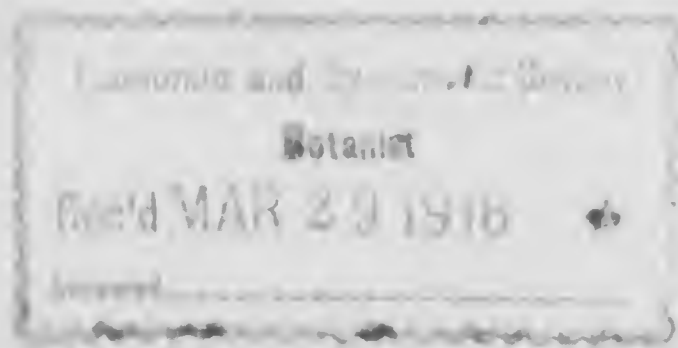
F. L. C.

Ans. Jan. 15, 1919

There is no such species of *Cypripedium* described. It may be of some other genus, possibly.

Epipactis gigantea looks something like a *Cypripedium*, but the flowers are not white. In New Mexico I have had what I feel sure was Cytherea bulbosa reported to me as a white *Cypripedium*, by people who claimed to be botanists.

P.C.S.



Mr. Carl Marshall, the discoverer of Ribes marshallii and other species of plants in northwestern California, tells me today that in May, 1886, he saw what he believes to be an undescribed species of Cypripedium in Del Norte County, California. The plant was seen on the Kelsey trail from Crescent City to Cottage Grove, Siskiyou County, along the south fork of Smith River. The plant grew about two feet high and bore several flowers on a stem. The color of the flowers was a clear white with sulphur markings. Professor Greene, to whom Mr. Marshall reported the character of the plant, said that it was probably an undescribed species. Mr. Marshall thinks that Mr. Edwin A. Moore of Crescent City, who is engaged in school work in that county, might take an interest in securing specimens of the plant.

March 23, 1918.

Grossularia marshallii.

This plant was discovered by Carl Marshall in 1887 on a summit of the Trinity Mountains, about twenty-five miles directly east of Ft. Gaston in the government reservation of Humboldt County, California. A good trail leads to the locality where the plant was discovered. The plants were rather numerous about one-fourth of a mile to the left of where the trail crosses the summit of the mountains. The discovery was made early in July and the plants were growing out of the fringes of a snowdrift and were just fully in bloom at the time of the discovery. Some few plants were also found along the mountain ridge at the foot of the snow within a half mile or so of the place of discovery.

March 23, 1918.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

August 3, 1920.

Ans'd. Aug. 15, 1920

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I regret to say that I shall not visit California this fall. Cabot is spending the summer at Greenfield, New Hampshire, and I have had no urgent call from Oregon for assistance in the agricultural activities of that state. This would be a great disappointment to me if it were not for the fact that my work in the east has been exceedingly interesting and productive. Two of the new hybrids that have fruited at Whitesbog have berries four-fifths of an inch in diameter.

A new locality for the box huckleberry has turned up in Pennsylvania. It is on the other side of the Juniata River from the first locality and the patch is said to cover several acres. I hope I shall be able to see it some time during the summer.

Mr. Standley's work with the Alaska flora is progressing satisfactorily and while I have long since given up promising the completion of the work at any special time I am looking forward with some confidence to the probability of having a pile of manuscript ready for you when you come back to Washington.

There is another and much more serious matter which I should like to present to you. You probably know that Professor Abrams of Stanford has in preparation a Flora of the Pacific States covering California, Oregon, and Washington. The manuscript of the first of the three proposed volumes is approaching completion but a serious difficulty has arisen regarding funds for publication. I do not know in exactly what way Abrams expected to procure the publication fund, but the prospects of getting it have changed in an unfavorable direction. He has written to me inquiring whether we would be willing to undertake publishing the flora in the Contributions from the U. S. National Herbarium. My own feeling is that even if we were able to do it, it would be an undesirable manner of publication for so distinctively a western project as an illustrated flora of the Pacific coast region.

The manuscript of the flora contains descriptions of families, genera, and species, keys to all these groups, synonymy, date of flowering of each species, citation of its type locality, and, I believe, citation of the type species of each genus. In addition, and perhaps more important than the description itself, is an illustration of each species in the form of a text figure in black and white from a line drawing. The importance of the work in the stimulation of botanical activity on the Pacific coast can hardly be overestimated.

Last summer you told me of an acquaintance of yours, a man of wealth, who is interested in natural history and in the progress of science on the Pacific coast. Here is a project the financing of which would be a worthy object for the practical interest and assistance of such a man. Can you not interest him in it?

I do not know to just what extent Abrams is cooperating with the California botanists in the preparation of this flora. He is, I know, cooperating with botanical authorities in the east in various difficult families. For example, Professor Hitchcock has prepared the grasses for the flora and I am helping Abrams with the Juncaceae. It seems to me that it would be desirable to incorporate in this flora the combined wisdom of the Pacific coast botanists, so far as it is practicable. I have in mind especially the assistance that could be rendered by Miss Alice Eastwood. Although I have not consulted with Abrams on this point it seems to me that it would be an excellent plan for Miss Eastwood to read the manuscript and give Abrams the benefit of her knowledge and advice, if such an arrangement has not already been made.

I shall be glad to know what you think of this suggestion and I will gladly do anything I possibly can to help toward its consummation.

Very truly yours,

Fredrick V. Coville

FVC/M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16, 1920.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The Research Committee of the National Geographic Society has taken action lately on a subject in which you will undoubtedly be interested. At a meeting last Wednesday I presented a memorandum, a copy of which I enclose herewith. The members present were: Sheldon, Hugh M. Smith, Grosvenor, Morley, Scofield, Philip S. Smith, Coville. After discussion the committee adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED:

1. That the Society undertake the publication of a series of research papers to be known as "Memoirs of the National Geographic Society."
2. That the net cost of this series shall be paid out of the research fund of the Society.
3. That copies of the Memoirs shall be offered for sale at approximately publication cost through advertisement by the National Geographic Society.
4. That publication in this series be limited to papers resulting from expeditions financed by the National Geographic Society.
5. That the chairman of the Research Committee appoint a committee on publication, of which he shall be a member, to proceed with the publication of the Memoirs.

The action of the committee was unanimous, every one being convinced that the establishment of a series of techni-

*Ans.
Nov. 21, 1920*

cal papers would be a good thing for science and a good thing for the Society.

Unless you are coming back to Washington soon so that I can talk with you about it, I should like to have comments from you on the proposed series of Memoirs and I should like especially your opinion on the following points:

1. Shall the Memoirs be numbered consecutively, each beginning with page 1, or shall they be arranged in volumes?
2. What shall be the size of the page?
3. Shall the text be printed on the page in single column or in double column?
4. What size type shall be used and shall it be leaded or not leaded?
5. Shall half-tone text figures be used and, if so, shall full page plates be run on the presses with the text, or shall all half-tones be printed on special plate paper separately from the text?

I have asked Dr. F. L. Ransome of the Geological Survey and Mr. C. S. Scofield of the Bureau of Plant Industry, to serve with me as members of the publication committee. Both have had experience in scientific publication, having been editors of the Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences. Dr. Ransome in particular was one of those who determined the type, paper, methods of citation, and various other features of the Journal at the time it was begun.

The committee also authorized the publication of Grigg's narrative of the Katmai expeditions as the first of the Memoirs.

Very truly yours,

Fredrick S. Coville

Research Publications
by the
National Geographic Society

Important contributions to geographic science are continually being made through expeditions financed with funds set aside from the Society's income. Some of these contributions are made known through publication in the National Geographic Magazine. But much of the information secured by these expeditions is of a technical character and not well suited for publication in the Magazine.

Heretofore these more technical papers, covering a wide range of subjects relating to geography, have been published in other journals or in special reports. Such publication has frequently been financed in whole or in part by National Geographic Society funds.

It is believed that the time has now arrived when the Society may advantageously inaugurate a new series of publications to include the contributions to science resulting from the expeditions financed by the Society through its research fund. With this end in view, the following suggestions are submitted for the consideration of the Research Committee of the Society.

1. That the Society undertake the publication of a series of research papers to be known as "Memoirs of the National Geographic Society".
2. That the net cost of this series shall be paid out of the research fund of the Society.
3. That copies of the Memoirs shall be offered for sale at approximately publication cost through advertisement by the National Geographic Society.
4. That the Society shall establish a limited list to which the Memoirs shall be sent free of charge.
5. That the Memoirs shall have a page with the same type body as the National Geographic Magazine, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ by 8 inches, but with outside dimensions of 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ by 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches, so as to provide for 7-8 inch margins when trimmed and bound.
6. That the series of Memoirs be numbered consecutively but paged separately.
7. That publication in this series be limited to papers resulting from expeditions or researches financed by the National Geographic Society.

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE, CHAIRMAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE

March 17, 1921.

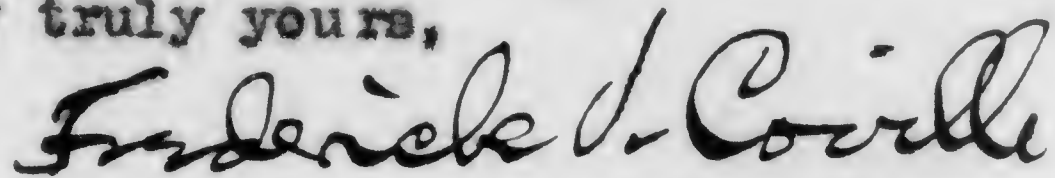
Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 Sixteenth St., City.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Mr. Gilbert Grosvenor, in a letter a copy of which is appended, calls attention to the fact that there is a sufficient sum of money on hand from the Jane M. Smith Life Membership Fund to provide for the election of five life members of the National Geographic Society.

Will you be kind enough to consider the eleven names suggested by Mr. Grosvenor, and be prepared to make additional nominations if you desire. The matter will come up at a meeting of the Research Committee to be called in time to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees for consideration at their Board meeting on March 25.

Very truly yours,



Chairman, Research Committee,
National Geographic Society.

*Recd. Feb. 15
1922*

Recd. by phone

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON

Feb. 9, 1922.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

1919 16th St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I am enclosing herewith a memorandum from Dr.
S. F. Blake of this office regarding the specimen of Eu-
onymus from California which you handed me.

With best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

Fredrick D. Coville

Botanist.

FVC/M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

January 5, 1922.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Memorandum for Mr. Coville.

Mr. Standley was unable to examine the Euonymus sent by Dr. Merriam, before his departure for Central America, and I was asked to examine it and report to you.

The specimens are very fragmentary, consisting only of poorly dried branches with leaves and fruit. So far as they go, the specimens appear to agree perfectly with material of Euonymus occidentalis Nutt. in the National Herbarium, and I should refer them to this species without question. It is possible that the flowers might show differences, but there are none in the material sent by Dr. Merriam.

Very truly yours,

S. F. Blake

Assistant Botanist.

SFB/HT

March 23, 1922.

Mr. Gilbert H. Grosvenor,
President,
National Geographic Society,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Grosvenor:

Mr. Judd, who has been hurriedly called away from Washington by the death of his father at Salt Lake and who expects to be back in about two weeks to go forward with his preparations for the archaeological work at Pueblo Bonito, has sent me an estimate, which I enclose, of his expenditures for the season of 1922.

I am sending a copy of this letter and estimate to the members of the Research Committee, with the request that they consider the estimate and be prepared to vote on the question of authorizing for the coming year an appropriation of \$15,000 plus the unexpended balance from last year, \$1,544.67, a total of \$16,544.67.

Very truly yours,

Fredrick S. Coville

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY'S PUEBLO BONITO EXPEDITION, 1922.

FUNDS AVAILABLE AND REQUESTED		
Unexpended balance from 1921	\$ 1544.67	
Appropriation requested, 1922	<u>15000.00</u>	\$16544.67

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES

LABOR:

Supervision:

Director, 4½ mo. at \$220.	990.00	
J. A. Jeancon, per annum	1500.00	
Karl Ruppert, 4½ mo. at \$100.	<u>450.00</u>	\$2940.00

Labor:

Cook, 4½ mo. at \$100.	450.00	
Truck driver, 4½ mo. at \$85.	382.50	
Mason, 100 da. at \$5.	500.00	
Surveyor, 1 mo. at \$200.	200.00	
20 Indians, 100 da. at \$2.25 ea.	<u>4500.00</u>	6032.50
		8972.50

SUBSISTENCE:

7 men, 135 da. at (\$1.50 ea.)	\$10.50	1417.50
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EQUIPMENT:

1200' portable track, \$372., switch \$26.		
and curves \$15.50	413.50	
4 steel rocker dump cars	390.00	
1 special "A" frame derrick	225.00	
1 double drum hand power winch	87.00	
300' weatherproof 3/4" rope	10.00	
Lumber, etc. for shed and platforms	200.00	
2 tents at \$40. ea. \$80- 1 at \$60.	140.00	
8 metal Army cots (2nd hand)	11.12	
12 Simons shovels	24.00	
6 drift picks	9.00	
12 pointing trowels	<u>8.00</u>	1517.62

AUTO UPKEEP: gas, storage and repairs	500.00
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TRANSPORTATION:

Judd, Wash., D.C.-Gallup, N.M. and ret	225.00	
Jeancon, Denver, Colo.-Gallup, N.M. and return,	75.00	
Ruppert, Tucson, Ariz., Gallup, N.M. and return,	75.00	
Other Assistants---- " " " "	50.00	
Douglass, Tucson, Ariz., " " " "	75.00	
R.R. freight on dump cars \$178.21- track \$451.96,	630.17	
R.R. freight on derrick and winch	75.00	
Auto fgt., Thoreau-P. Bonito on above	279.00	
Misc. fgt. and express	<u>100.00</u>	1584.17

HONORARIUM FOR DIRECTOR

EVENTUALITIES at 10% of estimates

\$ 16,490.97	1000.00
	<u>1499.18</u>
Total	\$16490.97

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE, CHAIRMAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE

October 26, 1922

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th Street,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

There will be an informal meeting of the Research Committee of the National Geographic Society on Saturday morning, October 28th, 11 o'clock, at the New National Museum, Room 362, in the office of Mr. Neil M. Judd, Director of the Society's expeditions to the Chaco Canyon, for the purpose of viewing the specimens obtained by these expeditions. It is hoped that you will find it convenient to be present.

Yours sincerely,

Frederick V. Coville
Chairman
Research Committee

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

HENRY WHITE, VICE-PRESIDENT

GILBERT GROSVENOR, PRESIDENT

JOHN OLIVER LA GORCE, ASSOCIATE EDITOR
O. P. AUSTIN, SECRETARY
GEORGE W. HUTCHISON, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

JOHN JOY EDSON, TREASURER

November 4, 1922.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:-

There will be a meeting of the Research Committee of
the National Geographic Society on Monday, November 6th at 5:00 p.m.,
in the Board Room of the Cosmos Club. I hope that you will find it
convenient to be present.

Very truly yours,

L. V. Coville
Chairman.

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE, CHAIRMAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE

January 16, 1923

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 Sixteenth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

There will be a meeting of the Research Committee of the National Geographic Society in the Board Room of the Cosmos Club, Wednesday afternoon, January 17, at 5 o'clock, to consider a grant for a botanical exploration of the northern part of the Province of Yunnan, China, and neighboring portions of Tibet, proposed by Dr. David Fairchild, to be carried out by Mr. Joseph F. Rock.

Hoping you will find it possible to be present, I am

Very sincerely yours,

F. V. Coville
Chairman

Kent

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE, CHAIRMAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE

January 15, 1924

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th St.,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

There will be a meeting of the Research
Committee of the National Geographic Society at 5:00 p.m.,
Thursday, January 17th, at the Cosmos Club. It is hoped
that you will find it convenient to be present.

Yours very sincerely,

Frederick V. Coville
Chairman

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE, CHAIRMAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE

January 25, 1924

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 Sixteenth Street,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

There will be a meeting of the Research
Committee on Tuesday, January 29th, at 5:00 p.m., at the Cosmos
Club. I hope that you will find it convenient to be present.

Yours very truly,

F. V. Coville

Chairman

C-DC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON

June 16, 1924.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

1919 16th St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

*Recd.
Wash. July 23, 1924*

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The address of Mrs. Helen O. Trotter, about whose excellence as a stenographer and general clerical assistant I spoke to you yesterday, is 5314 Shafter Avenue, Oakland, California.

Very truly yours,

Frederick V. Coville

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

September 29, 1924.

Recd. Oct. 19, 1924

Doctor C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Doctor Merriam:

I am sending you two copies of the separate, *Grossularia echinella* a Spiny-Fruited Gooseberry from Florida. I hope you will slice into the biggest California gooseberries you can find and see if any of them have a berry more than seven eighths of an inch in diameter. That is the size reached by the Florida gooseberry when ripe. One of my Florida friends claims that *G. echinella* has the biggest fruit of any gooseberry, and I want to show him he is mistaken, if he really is.

Beth and I and two boys had a fine outing in Nova Scotia, my only regret being that we were unable to see the Sheldons.

Mr. Killip and I are having a terribly worrisome time beating New York at baseball. If we lose we shall always believe that it was because Zenaida was not here to help us.

Cabot sailed for France September 23 and Frederick has gone back to college, so there are only Beth and I to send our best regards to all the Merriams.

Very truly yours,

Frederick V. Coville

Botanist.

FVC:CBP.

Feb. 21, 1925

Dr. C. Hart Merriam:

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Enclosed
is the request for
a grant, from
Dr. Hrdlicka. I shall
be glad of a ^{written} com-
ment from you
if you wish to
make one.
F.H.

Ans'd. March 3, 1925
sam

AT HOME FROM HOME

Nearest to Everything

A MODERN
FIREPROOF
BUILDING



MANAGEMENT OF F. P. LEISEN

CARTWRIGHT HOTEL

524 SUTTER STREET, ABOVE POWELL

San Francisco, March 29
1925

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Yesterday,
on a grossulariaceous
trip to Lake Lagunitas and
later to Inverness, Miss
Eastwood and I went through
Lagunitas and took the
liberty of driving up to your
house. All the roads are
repaired and there is no
difficulty anywhere. They
are widening the road on
the south side of Whites
Hill until it looks like a
boulevard. It apparently
is all done except the sur-

facing.

The ^{purple} gooseberry in front
of the house and the pink
currant in the back
were in fine flower, and
the madrones were glorious.
And the evergreen blueberry,
and the mission-bells, and
the margaritas all are asking
for you. There is only one thing
about the house I don't
like; there is nobody in
it. You are the only one
who can remedy that.
I am going to start south
to-morrow, to be gone two
weeks or a little more.
If you aren't here when
I get back I am going
to raise hell.

The Chevrolet works beauti-
fully. I am greatly obliged to
you for the letter of introduction.
Very sincerely yours, Coville

10 IN
30
AM
25
W.D.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs. C. Hart Merriam
1919-16th
Washington D.C.

1711 - 12th Dec. Monies

Monday April 27 (1925)

Dear Elizabeth -

I am starting tonight for Cal. but
don't know quite what's going to happen
to me. Fritz writes that he will meet me in
Oakland so I fancy we may be bound for
the Hermanns. Address Cal Acad of Sciences
when you arrive & you will see me between
trips with Fritz. I do hope no damage has been done to
your nice home! Love Beth D.

For Dr. Merriam

June 30, 1925.

Dr. W. Barclay Stephens,

1250 Bay St.,
Alameda, Cal.

Dear Dr. Stephens:

I am delighted this morning to get from Dr. C. Hart Merriam three specimens of gooseberry collected by you in Monterey County on June 14.

No. 3 is the fuchia gooseberry, Grossularia speciosa, a species of frequent occurrence in the coastal region of southern California, and reaching very sparsely as far north as the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Your numbers 1 and 2 belong to Grossularia sericea, a species known only in the Santa Lucia Mountains where it was discovered by Miss Alice Eastwood and published by her in 1902. I am very glad indeed to get these excellent fruiting specimens.

I found this plant still sparingly in flower on April 9 at Mr. Lambert's place at Jamesburg and again with mature fruit in the same vicinity on May 2. I had previously collected it on April 6 at Palo Colorado Canyon on the west side of the Santa Lucias. I greatly appreciate your courtesy in remembering me with these specimens.

Mrs. Coville and I greatly regretted that we failed to see you and Mrs. Stephens in California. If we go again next year we shall make another attempt to find you at home.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Cabot, who has recently returned from a year in France,
is here just now and probably will spend the next year in mak-
ing a special study of economics and politics in Washington.

Very truly yours,

Fredrick A. Coville
Botanist.

FVC/M

Dear Doctor:

I am gratefully
obliged to you for these
specimens. I shall be
writing you further soon

FVC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON Sept. 10, 1925.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The specimen of currantbush collected by you August 28, 1925, at Hat Creek near Cassel, eastern Shasta County, California, almost certainly belongs to Ribes cereum Dougl. The specimen has no flowers or fruit and it does not, therefore, contain the critical characters to distinguish it from Ribes inebrians Lindl. The latter, however, is a Rocky Mountain species which reaches across Nevada into the central Sierra Nevada of California. The ordinary species of this group which occurs in California, and to which I think your species belongs, is Ribes cereum.

I assume that this specimen is a plant you wish to keep
collection
for your own/and I am therefore returning it to you by mail to-day.

Very sincerely yours,

Frederick V. Coville

FVC/M

Botanist.

P. S. The common name of Ribes cereum is wax currant.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON June 3, 1926.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

1919 - 16th St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I have your letter of May 27, regarding Contributions from the U. S. National Herbarium, Volume 7, No. 3, Plants Used by the Indians of Mendocino County, California. I regret to say that this is out of print. The only firm that is likely to have a copy is W. H. Lowdermilk & Co., 1418 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

Frederick V. Coville

Botanist.

M

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE, CHAIRMAN RESEARCH COMMITTEE

December 7, 1926

12/7/26

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 16th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

There will be a meeting of the Research Committee of the
National Geographic Society at 5:00 p. m., on Thursday, December 9,
1926, in the Board Room of the Cosmos Club.

It is hoped that you will find it convenient to be present.

Yours very sincerely,

Frederick V. Coville
Chairman

CGC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON

September 1, 1927.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

*Answered in negative
Sept. 16, 1927*

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Do you happen to know whether Chico, California, derives its name from Sarcobatus vermiculatus which is sometimes called Chico by Spanish-speaking people? Mr. Dayton of the Forest Service is looking up the matter and it occurred to me that possibly it was one of the names you had already looked up.

With best wishes to all of you, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Fredrick I. Coville

Botanist.

FVC:CBP.

*Copy for Mr. Hart
C. Hart*

April 20, 1928

Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor,
President, National Geographic Society,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Grosvenor:

The National Geographic Society has a unique opportunity to make a grant of very exceptional public interest, and of permanent aid to scientific research.

The Secretary of Agriculture has been authorized to establish a National Arboretum along the upper Anacostia River in the District of Columbia, and an appropriation is available for the purchase of land which, together with land already owned by the government, would provide an Arboretum area of nearly 700 acres. There is a tract of 75 acres additional, known as Hickey Hill, which the Secretary of Agriculture cannot purchase, because of limitations in the Arboretum act. This hill is essential to the Arboretum because it occupies a commanding position, topographically, between the land now owned by the government and the land that the Secretary can buy. Secretary Jardine feels that he cannot establish the Arboretum if it is to be separated into two parts with Hickey Hill standing between as private property, covered, as it ultimately would be, with streets and buildings.

I recommend that Hickey Hill be purchased by the National Geographic Society, and presented to the government for purposes of scientific research. The cost would be about \$100,000.

Under authority of the Board of Trustees of the Geographic Society the Research Committee has placed the unexpended balances of the research fund year by year in a special reserve fund, invested in interest-bearing securities. These annual balances together with the accumulated interest now

GG-2

amount to about \$130,000.

The proposed grant is of such an unusual amount that I feel it ought not to be made without the approval of the Board of Trustees. It is a somewhat larger grant than any the Research Committee has made up to the present time.

If the National Geographic Society will now contribute this tract, the establishment of the National Arboretum will be assured. It is my opinion that this action by the Society would constitute an enduring monument to the Society's interest in research and would be widely appreciated by its membership.

Very truly yours,

Frederick V. Coville

Chairman, Research Committee.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON June 15, 1931.

BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

The photograph accompanying your letter of June 6 shows clearly that your plant is stingbush, Eucnide urens Parry. It is rather frequent in canyons and washes in the Death Valley region and its barbed hairs make the plant rather nasty to handle. It belongs to the same family as Mentzelia.

I have not had an opportunity to tell you that the "high snowy mountain" that Fremont saw to the northwest when he approached the bend of the Amargosa on the morning of April 28, 1844, was undoubtedly Telescope Peak. French Gilman and I, driving southeastward from a point in Death Valley from which we could get a nearer and more familiar view of Telescope Peak, kept its outline identified by frequent back sights and were able to see both Telescope and the neighboring Baldy very distinctly from the point at which Fremont saw it. We also could see both of them very clearly from Saratoga Spring. Our observation of the mountain, however, was made in the afternoon, looking toward the light, when we could not see the snow, but Fremont saw it early in the morning when the morning light would be reflected from the snow. The distance is about 60 miles.

CHM-2-

I have been making progress with my Death Valley article and I hope to have it finished in another week.

After I left Death Valley, Gayer, the photographer, came in touch with Tom Wilson in Wild Rose Canyon and spent several days in the Panamints with him, photographing everything that seemed to him worth while. I hope he got some illustrations that will be useful to you.

I am returning the stingbush photograph with this letter.

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Fredrick I. Coville

FVC-M

Botanist.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON May 14, 1931.

Ans. June 6, 1931

BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas,
Marin County, Cal.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

Your letter of April 30 was forwarded to me here. I am glad to know that you are safely back at Lagunitas and I am very sorry indeed that I can't join you there.

We were able to do excellent botanical work in Death Valley with the exception of the canyons on the east slope of the Panamints. up to the time I had to leave, April 30, Tom Wilson had not come down from Johnson Canyon and my note was still attached to the door of his house at the Eagle Borax Works. Not being able to get hold of Tom Wilson or any other Indian who was equipped to take me into the canyons from the lower end, with horses, I drove around to the head of Wild Rose Canyon where we found good shelter and accommodations with a homesteader who had established a place about a mile above the charcoal kilns. We were snowed in for two days and on the third day we made a journey of about five miles along the east slopes of the Panamints toward Hanaupah Canyon at an elevation of about eight thousand feet. The season was too early to do any serious collecting of the high mountain plants. Among other things, however, we found a shrubby lupine, presumably Lupinus ex-

cubitus, and a fruiting shrub which I took to be Philadelphus microphyllus, a plant that has not yet been reported, so far as I know, from California. It occurs in the Charleston Mountains.

Although we made a most careful search we did not find any plants of Phyllogonum luteolum. This plant has been collected only three times, in Furnace Creek Wash, near its mouth, once by myself, when I found two specimens, once by Jepson, who found one specimen, and once by Parish, who found only a few specimens.

Very sincerely yours,

Fredrick V. Coville

FVC-M

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

September 1, 1931.

*Recd. & dust. Sept. 8, 1931
Sent answer to Trona - am*

BOTANY

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Lagunitas, California.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I expect to leave Washington on September 9 to spend two or three weeks in the higher elevations of the Panamint Mountains, with the head of Wild Rose Canyon as a base, and with Tom Wilson as guide and horse wrangler. If there is anything I can do especially for you there, please write me at General Delivery, Trona, California, which will be my nearest post office, marking the letter to be held until otherwise directed. I expect to reach Barstow about September 13 and drive from Barstow to John Thorndike's place at the head of Wild Rose Canyon by way of Trona, which is in Searles Valley.

Last April when I tried to do some botanical work in the higher Panamints, the country was covered with snow down to about 7,000 feet, and it was so early in spring that most of the vegetation had not yet started. I should have preferred to be there in August instead of September, but I could not get away from Washington at that time.

My brother, Luzerne Coville, of Ithaca, New York, who is a physician, will be with me, and we shall have no photographer.

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Frederick V. Coville

Frederick V. Coville
Botanist.

P.

from Coville
After 3 Pm Sept. 8 I recd a telegram (phoned up from San Rafael) asking me to ship his tent to Trona (Searles Valley, Mohave County). I took it as he left it (in 2 boxes) there being no time to spare to replace it, & shipped it from San Anselmo - addressed as he had directed. - cov. Also wrote Coville at once - cov.

Telegram

Washington D.C.

[Sept. 8, 1931]

Mr. C. Hunt Merriam
La Grange, Calif.

Please express
tent to me. After
Torna Calif. Am
Leaving Washington
to-morrow. Answer.

Signed

Fredrick C. Coville

{ Sent the tent (in
two packages) before
4 PM by express from
San Francisco - done
Sept. 8, 1931.

Washington D.C.
[Sept 8, 1931]

Mr. C. Hart Merriam
Payson, Calif.

Please express
tent to me. After
Torna Calif. Am
leaving Washington
to-morrow. Answer.

Signed

Fredrick C. Coville

{ Sent the tent (-
two feathers) before
4 PM before for
San Antonio - done
Sept 8, 1931.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON January 27, 1933.

DIVISION OF BOTANY

Recd. Jan. 30, 1933
am

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 Sixteenth Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I am delighted to receive your letter of January 13, and the accompanying photographs from the Mohave region.

I am returning to you the smaller photographs as you requested. The others I am keeping. These are remarkably beautiful examples of the Joshua-tree. The one shown in your photographs 31 and 80 is a beautiful specimen. I hope you can give me a close estimate of the height of this tree.

You will be interested to know that this species was actually found within Death Valley in the upper part of Grapevine Canyon. I had supposed that the Joshua-tree did not grow in Death Valley until I saw it in that canyon two years ago. Another tree species of Yucca, Yucca mohavensis, also grows in Death Valley in the upper part of Cave Springs Wash. We are therefore able to include both these Yuccas in the Death Valley flora.

Very truly yours,

Frederick V. Coville

Frederick V. Coville,
Botanist.

FVC:CBP.



Christmas
Greetings
from
the hills

Epilobium pringleanum Hauskn.

F.V.C.

Crocker, William H.

1913 - 1923

83/129
C

WM. H. CROCKER, PRESIDENT
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JOHN CLAUSEN
MANAGER FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

THE CROCKER NATIONAL BANK
OF SAN FRANCISCO

UNITED STATES DEPOSITARY
CABLE ADDRESS: CROCKWOOL

August 11th, 1913.

*Recd. &
Ans. Aug. 12, 1913*

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

Lagunitas, Marin Co., Cal.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

We have just learned of your presence in California, and in view of the fact that we are undertaking the construction of a Museum for the California Academy of Sciences, we take the liberty of asking you if it will be convenient for you to attend the meeting of our Building Committee to be held on Wednesday at this office, at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of giving us the benefit of your advice about some important matters which might arise.

Trusting that we shall be favored with your presence, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES,

Wm. H. Crocker

President, Board of Trustees.

WM. H. CROCKER
THE CROCKER NATIONAL BANK
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

CABLE ADDRESS: WILL CROCKER
SAN FRANCISCO

Recd. March 8, 1923

March 3, 1923.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 Sixteenth Street,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

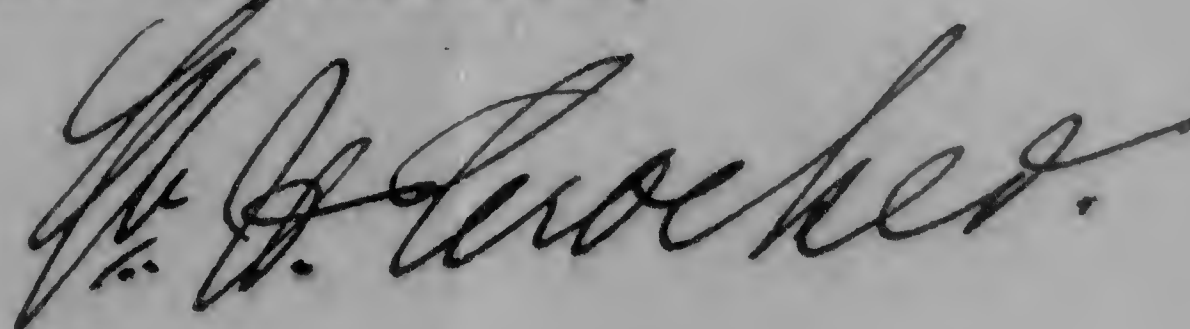
It was a very great pleasure to receive your letter of February 26th. I am pleased to learn from you of the great value attached to the publication of the California Academy, namely Van Denburgh's two large volumes on the Reptiles.

I shall take pleasure in sending your letter to Mr. Van Denburgh.

I suppose you know about the large collection of Reptiles that the Academy has acquired from the Philippines quite recently. I am told that it places our institution amongst those of the first rank in this department of scientific work.

The Steinhart Aquarium is nearing completion and they expect the opening to occur during the first part of July.

Yours very sincerely,



Crook, A. R. (Alja Robinson), b. 1864

1914

83/124
C



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EDWARD F. DUNNE, GOVERNOR.
HARRY WOODS, SECRETARY OF STATE.
FRANCIS G. BLAIR, SUPT. PUB. INSTRUCTION.

A. R. CROOK, CURATOR.
MISS FANNIE FISHER, ASST. CURATOR.

September 7, 1914.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:-

Have you any data as to the extreme length obtained
by the grizzly bear or the Polar bear? Wright in his book on "Grizzly
Bear" mentions a grizzly which was said to measure nine feet from the
end of his nose to the tip of his tail.

Any information which you may give will be greatly appreciated by

Yours sincerely,

A. R. Crook
Curator.

Encl. left. 16. 1914

Cross, Mauds Robert

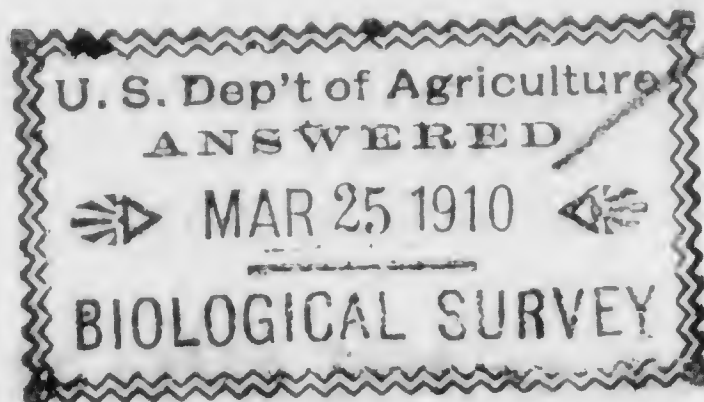
1910-1917

Re beans

83/29

BOYDEN, PALFREY, BRADLEE & TWOMBLY,
COUNSELLORS AT LAW.

ALBERT BOYDEN.
JOHN G. PALFREY.
EDWARD C. BRADLEE.
HOWLAND TWOMBLY.
CHARLES R. CROSS, JR.
FRANK S. WHITE.
GEORGE BLANEY.



CABLE ADDRESS: BOYBLY

84 STATE STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

March 7, 1910.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Bureau of Biological Survey,
United States Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam ;

On my return from New York this morning I found your letter and am replying immediately. The reason that you have not heard from me lately is not on account of any forgetfulness on my part. The skin of the bear I killed last Fall in the Kanai only arrived here some ten days ago as there was delay in Alaska about getting it dried out and shipped to me. You see the weather was so cold at the time I got the bear in question that it was impossible to dry him in camp and I felt it was safer to leave him to be dried out in Seward before being packed up to send across the continent. When finally the skin did reach me, the grease was not yet all out of it so I had it looked out for by Brown of the Natural History Museum here who tells me that it is now ready for shipment. However, this delay is not my only trouble for in sending my sheep and bear back to me they somehow left out the skull of the bear and I am now trying to locate it. This last seems unnecessary and certainly is a surprise to me as I have two most trustworthy people in Seward looking out for the matter for me.

The skull of the mother of Little Willie also was only completed a few days ago owing to the serious sickness of the man who had the skulls in charge. However it is now ready and I will start this skull and the skin of the Kanai bear along to you as soon as the skin in question is returned to me which will be a matter of a few days only. The skull of the Kanai bear I will send

Dr. C.H.M.--2

to you if I ever get it again just as soon as it comes to hand and I certainly shall spare no pains to get it.

Two further matters: (1) There is a certain prospector with whom I became well acquainted last year in Seward. He is a very exceptional man and is a good deal of a student in animals. His prospect lies on the edge of a good bear country and almost every spring he gets one or two of these Kanaï bear. Should you care to have me I can make arrangements with him to try to kill a couple of good specimens this next spring. I think that he would charge from \$50 to \$75 a skin to do this but there would be no question when the skin was obtained as to where it came from or of the condition in which you would get it. (2) As regards the grizzly that we got near the head of the Stikine River on our trip to the Cassiar, we had ^{the} skulls mounted in the skins which was a great mistake as for various reasons I am now wondering much whether this animal is the same as the ordinary grizzly of the South. If you should feel interested in the matter any time in the future I will have the skull of my bear taken out and send the skin and skull on to you. The bear in my possession is apparently an adult male though of no great age.

Yours very truly,

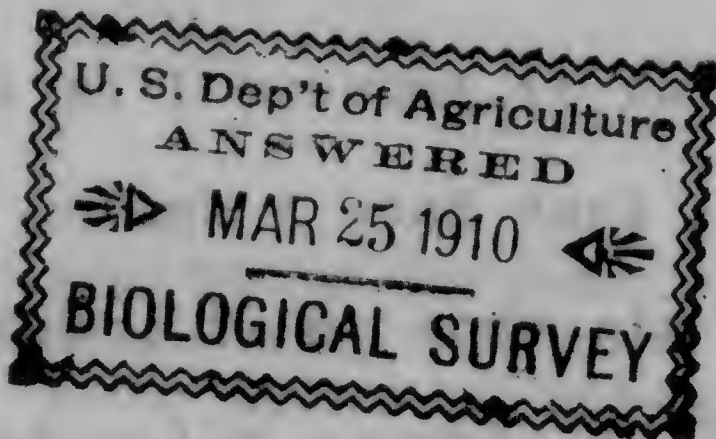
CRC.J.

Charles P. Cross Jr.

BOYDEN, PALFREY, BRADLEE & TWOMBLY,
COUNSELLORS AT LAW.

CABLE ADDRESS: BOYBLY

ALBERT BOYDEN.
JOHN G. PALFREY.
EDWARD C. BRADLEE.
HOWLAND TWOMBLY.
CHARLES R. CROSS, JR.
FRANK S. WHITE.
GEORGE BLANEY.



84 STATE STREET.
BOSTON, MASS.

Boston, March 17, 1910.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Bureau of Biological Survey,
Department of Agriculture,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On Tuesday last, I started down to you the skull of the mother of Little Willie and a few other skulls from the Port Moller region of the Aleutian Peninsula, which I thought you might be interested to see again at the present time. These are two skulls of female bears, two skulls of yearling cubs, (the cubs of one of these females) and the skull of an adult bull of medium size. The female bear seem to be the average size of full grown cow bears of this region and all three are very nearly the same size; i.e. some six feet long at most between stakes when laid out in a natural position. This seemed to be a good deal smaller than the average size of full-grown females in the Kenai as far as I was able to find out or observe for myself this year and makes a strange difference in size between the bulls and cows. A couple of these skulls are from bear killed by the man whom we took up with us, on days when he was out hunting with me and I was after larger specimens, and were brought out by him. In case you should think it would be of interest to have the skull of the mother of Little Willie in Washington, as the cub is now there, I hope you will keep this one permanently.

I have also started to you for your inspection the skin of the bear I killed last fall in the Kenai. As I said in my previous letter this was one of two cubs still with their mother (whom I lost

in the heavy brush) so I presume it to have been some eighteen months old. The skin has shrunk a good deal in drying as when green it measured over six feet, i. e. some six and a half feet or more, without stretching unnaturally as well as I could tell. I am trying hard to recover the skull of this bear and will let you know how I succeed and I shall send the skull on to if I am successful. Of course I feel very sore about this last for I would rather even have lost the hide, and there was no excuse for such a mistake being made as not sending it on to me with the hide.

The only reason I spoke in my last note of the Cassiar Grizzly beyond the fact that I have always been interested in them was that Dr. Jason Mixter told me on his return from Washington recently that you had said you would like to see the skulls from these bears again and suggested that we dismount the bear. So I thought I would let you know, as I told Dr. Mixter, that if you really cared to examine these skulls, I should be glad to have the one in my possession fixed to go down to you. Also as regards my suggestion about obtaining an adult specimen of the Kenai bear, -I realized of course that you had all the facilities to manage such if you wanted to do so and merely thought this man Swesey, the prospector whom I spoke of finding last fall, was especially trustworthy and dependable and was right on the spot.

The measurements of the white sheep I killed last fall are as follows:

Horn at base	15"
Horn 22 inches from base	11 1/2"
Spread	26"
Length of Horn	44 1/2"

Dr. C. H. M.--3

Height of sheep at shoulder 36"
Length between stakes in natural position 54"

On thorough drying the base of the horn has of course now shrunk
a little.

Very sincerely,

Charles P. Cross Jr.

P.S. Unfortunately the title "Professor" does not belong to me. I am
merely a common or garden lawyer, and the handle in question
belongs to my father and not to me.

C P C Jr.

BOYDEN, PALFREY, BRADLEE & TWOMBLY,
COUNSELLORS AT LAW,

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CHARLES R. CROSS, JR.
FRANK S. WHITE.
GEORGE BLANEY.
NATHANIEL C. NASH, JR.

CABLE ADDRESS: BOYBLY

84 STATE STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

*Recd. July 1, 1911
can*

June 22, 1911.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
1919 Sixteenth Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Merriam:

I received your note of the 21st today and was more than glad to hear from you. I having likewise been intending to write to you for a long time but have not been able to get around to it.

I am glad that the skulls of the bear from the Stikine region have reached you in due course. As to whether Dr. Mixer's bear was a male or not I do not know. Mine was and was a somewhat larger bear than Dr. Mixer's. By the Indians it was considered a year or two older. Both of Dr. Richardson's bear were bulls and were considered older than either Dr. Mixer's or mine, one of them, the skull of which I believe you saw just after our return, being considered by the Indians a very old bear. You of course know more about this than anybody else. I do not know whether Dr. Mixer spoke to you as to the coloring of these animals. The younger ones seemed to be a gray and in life the skin looked quite light although now that the skins are dead and have been tanned they seem pretty dark. The skin of the older bear in life seemed to lose this gray tinge and become a brownish black and these facts the Indians said were characteristic of the bear as they had seen them. I got no reports in that country of these grizzly growing to the size that the grizzly further south often seem to obtain and Dr. Richardson's grizzlies were considered there more than average large bear, I believe.

Dr. C.H.M.--2

Since writing to you I have been vigorously prodding people in the Kanai Peninsula and finally got track of the skull of my bear that I killed up there. I find it was carried off during the winter by the sledge dogs much to the discomfiture of the men I had out with me. They have however sent me a skull of what they say is a bull brown bear of the country in which I hunted. This skull, if you care to have me, I will send to you for your examination, for whatever it may be worth. The man who sent the skull to me is personally interested in bear and I consider his word unquestionable so that I have no doubt that what I would be sending you would be the skull of a medium sized brown bear of the Kanai Peninsula. I confess for a bear of full growth as I saw them, in this region, the skull strikes me as being very small.

When I wrote you as regards to my bear skulls from the Alaska Peninsula I think that I ~~then~~ said that I should be glad to have the Biological Survey keep the skull of the she-bear tagged as being the mother of the cub Pauline which has since died, and of which I believe you have the skeleton. I hope that you may care for this skull as I should think that in connection with the skull of Pauline it might be of some interest. In view of the fact that these skulls would remain in Washington I should think that you would not care much about permanently keeping the other set of a she and two yearling cubs which I sent you. However if these should be of great interest to your collection there and would not merely become lost I should like to know it as I might feel like giving these to the Survey also. I certainly should not care to give these last three however unless they were considered of prime importance as to

Dr. C.H.M.--3

these species of bear.

Dr. Richardson's address is Dr. Edward P. Richardson,
224 Beacon Street, Boston.

It was a matter of great regret to me that on our last trip to Alaska on which I took permits kindly obtained by you I did not have better luck with bear but Fate seemed to be against me at every turn. I do not know whether you are interested, or not, in the fact that as far as I have been able to find by careful examination the white sheep which I obtained on that trip is the record as far as length of horn and average size goes. The measurements were base 15 inches, when green; length of one horn $44-3/4$; and the other $44-1/2$ with the weight carried very far into the horn.

This Fall I am planning a short trip in Newfoundland, not having time to do anything else. If I succeed in carrying out my wishes I shall go into the North Peninsula which I believe has not been much hunted. If there is anything there which you would like to have me look out for I should be much obliged if you would let me know and I will try to get some results in the matter. The address to which things of mine that are to be sent when you get through with them is Upland Road, Brookline, Mass. Keep my things as long as you want to, or any of them; and as I said, I desire to give at the present time, if it is cared for, the skull of the mother of the cub Pauline. If by any chance anything else is desired I should be glad to know it.

Yours very truly,

CRC/J

Charles P. Cross Jr.

BOYDEN, PALFREY, BRADLEE & TWOMBLY,
COUNSELLORS AT LAW.

CABLE ADDRESS: BOYBLY

84 STATE STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

ALBERT BOYDEN.
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CHARLES R. CROSS, JR.
FRANK S. WHITE.
GEORGE BLANEY.
NATHANIEL C. NASH, JR.

July 8th 1911

Dear Dr. Merriam.

I have this morning sent by the Am. Express to you, and directed to you at 1919 Sixteenth St, the skull of the brown bear killed by one of my men in the Kenai Peninsula, and as I understand within fifty or sixty miles of Seward. As I said in my last letter I have no personal knowledge as to this skull but it was sent by a man whose word I trust, who knew the purpose for which I wished the specimen and who is himself much interested, in a rough way, in natural history. The skull he said was that of a medium size brown bear skull. I am surprised if this is so, at the small size, for the brown bear as I saw them in the Kenai, and I saw at least twenty to twenty-five - were very large. These bear on the average were larger I fully believe than the average bear as I saw them on the Alaska Peninsula. I will not say that I saw any as large as the largest we met by the Bering Sea but I thought I did. I had a good chance to study these animals through my heavy glasses at no great distances and I examined great numbers of fresh tracks. The bear were not so long legged as to the north

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NATHANIEL C. NASH, JR.

84 STATE STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

as rangy in general build, seeming to be a more clumsy animal more like a huge grizzly in appearance. The females also did not show that great difference in size from that obtained by the males that appeared in the north, for in the Kenai the females were only a little smaller than the males. All these observations tally with the statements made to me by the half breed whom we took with us to the Alaska Peninsula and whose home and regular hunting grounds were in the Kenai. I give you these for whatever interest they may have. The skin I sent you is that of one of two cubs still with the mother, presumably therefore I suppose about eighteen months old, as it was too large I should think to be a cub of the same year; - is this not so? How the other cub and the mother, whom I stopped as she was approaching me with some rapidity, on an investigating expedition of her own ever got away I don't know. When I stopped shooting at her she was as dead a bear as I ever saw apparently, but somehow while I was after the other cub she meaped off. Otherwise we should have had another family.

BOYDEN, PALFREY, BRADLEE & TWOMBLY,
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GEORGE BLANEY.
NATHANIEL C. NASH, JR.

84 STATE STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

I wish that I could feel sure of getting off on
the Siberian trip which George Mixer and I are
at work on now, but hunting and the law do
not seem to go together well when it comes to long
trips.

Yours sincerely
Charles R. Cross Jr.

Acld. July 12, 1911
cm

ARROWHEAD CAMP
GRAND LAKE STREAM
MAINE

Dear Dr. Meriam

Your kind and flattering letter arrived here a day or two ago. I have not had time to answer as I have been following the salmon so hard. Will write you when I get home next week. I shall be glad to do anything I can that may be of service to you, but what

I can do depends on when you
will want the stuff and whether
I really have anything that will
be of use.

I wonder whether the
men you talked with as to the
bear on the Matanuska had ever
got up ^{to} the glacier at the head
of the river. I fancy not. The
only reports I have of bear of the
sort I was speaking to you of, was
about this ice field, and I was
told definitely they were never
seen further down the river.

Please excuse the appearance of this scrawl
but I am so sleepy I can hardly see. I have

I can do depends on when you
will want the stuff and whether
I really have anything that will
be of use.

I wonder whether the
men you talked with as to the
bear on the Matanuska ~~had ever~~
got up to the glacier at the head
of the river. I fancy not. The
only reports I have of bear of the
sort I was speaking of you of, was
about this ice field, and I was
told definitely they were never
seen farther down the river.

Please excuse the appearance of this scrawl
but I am so sleepy I can hardly see. I have
only had two or three hours sleep in the
last day and a half, and only expect a
couple more tonight for I must get back to
my favorite fool on the river at daybreak
and it is now eleven P.M.

Yours sincerely

Charles Robert Cross

June 13 [1913]

100 Upland Road,
Brookline.

Dear Dr. Yenniam

I am sorry to say that as it was pretty late in the day when we had got the skin off the old bull, bear I got this summer and as I wanted to find some fairly thick piece of scrub to sleep under that night and to get a little wood cut before dark I did not open up the stomach the day that I killed. The next day I had no desire to play with the carcass much and I did not. As regards to whether Preble opened the stomach of the younger bull I got when he and the Indian were skinning him I do not know as I was making camp at the time.

That the main article of diet of both the Black and grizzly bears during the early part of the fall in the region around Thule Lake had been blueberries and bear berries was evident from the droppings I examined. By the first part of October it looked as if the grizzly had more or less left the berry patches and were moving around after ground hog. I saw the big bull you asked me about eating a groundhog just before I shot into him: and the second bull I killed was beating ground hog holes when we sighted him.

It was very interesting to me to learn that the bear we got this summer were the same as those we got several years ago on the Stikine

and
you
the
as
to
any
this
has
from
to
with
this
even
of

from
of
you

and of which Dr. Richardson has given
you the two skulls. That this was
the case I was pretty sure but then
as Preble was kind enough to intimate
to me I really did not know
anything about it. I guess that
this sort of grizzly is a type that
has its home in the country
from the head of the Nass east
to the head of the Ingerikha and
north to Bear Lake at least but
this is merely a surmise. Have you
ever seen any of this type from north
of the Stikine?

I have not forgotten my
promise to send you an enlargement
of my caribou picture which I told
you about last June or rather May

I guess it was, and I have a picture
of a black bear I took this summer
which ought to make a great picture
but I have not seen the result
yet.

Very sincerely
Charles P. Cross Jr

February 6th

Ans. Feb. 14, 1914

Dear

as it
we have
bull
as I
thick
that
cut
the
the
to please
I did
Probably
younger
Indian
more
time

100 Upland Road
Brookline.

Aug. 4 30 Enlargement of plates
sent April 1, 1914 - same

Dear Dr. Merriam

The Harvard Travelers

Club has decided to hold another
Exhibition this spring and although
I was anything but anxious to assist in
arranging it again (at the time of the
last show I had nightmares for at least a
week and wandered in my sleep through
Dr. Lowells' canals on Yars. peopled
by tumblers moose and headless bears)
I find myself chairman of the
committee on "The Show" and so
condemned to search Boston for the
houses of members and by force

of any inconvenience or risk, for we certainly
are not! But I know you have no money interest

almost enter and carry off their possessions!
I am trying this year to make the Exhibition
less a sportsmans show than before and
to use the heads and skins more as a
background for exhibits of pictures,
utensils, maps etc. It occurred to me
that perhaps you might have a
few pictures of your Indians or of their
lives that you might be glad to send
up to me to exhibit, and which could
be sent with safety and without much
trouble. Of course I would not have
you for anything send up any pictures
or drawings or figures that you owned
to keep in private at present, or anything
of a value that made it risky to
send by mail or express, or further

anything that it was going to cost you to so much
trouble to see about. There is the basis of my

almost enter and carry off their possessions!
I am trying this year to make the Exhibition
less a showmans show than before and
to use the beads and skins more as a
background for exhibits of pictures,
sketches, maps etc. It occurred to me
that perhaps you might have a
few pictures of your Indians or of their
lives that you might be glad to send
up to me to exhibit, and which could
be sent with safety and without much
trouble. Of course I would not have
you for anything send up any pictures
or drawings or figures that you secured
to keep in private at present, or anything
of a value that made it very to
send by mail or express, or further

anything that it was going to put you to so much
trouble to see about. This is the basis of my
letter, believe me. But if you happen to have
a few pictures, drawings, figures or anything else
that you would not mind having go out of your
hands and which you could send up without
more trouble than a very very little we should
be very grateful for it; and would look with all
care.

The Exhibition is to take place
on the 6-7- and 8th of April and we shall see
to putting things up on Sunday the 5th.

I hope you will not misunderstand
my letter, nor think I am asking you really to

100 Upland Road
Brookline.
Recd & 30 enlargements of photos
sent April 1, 1914 - cam

Dear Dr. Merriam

The Hammon Travellers

Club has decided to hold another
Exhibition this spring and although
I was anything but anxious to assist in
arranging it again (at the time of the
last show I had nightmares for at least a
week and wandered in my sleep through
Dr. Lowell's canals in Mass. populated
by timberline moose and headless bears)
I find myself chairman of the
committee on "The Show" and so
endeavored to search Boston for the
houses of members and by force

go to any inconvenience or risk, for we certainly
are not. But I know you have so many intensely
interesting pictures and things pertaining to Indians
etc that I thought there might be a few that
you would be perfectly easy in your mind to send
us.

I am having a few enlargements made now
for the exhibition and will have one of the
caribou picture I told you of made and which
I told you I wanted to send you a copy of to
put with your bear pictures.

Very sincerely
Charles T. Cross

March 20

St. Botolph Club

Qued. Phil 24, 1914

Dear Dr. Meniam

I am writing you in
great trouble of mind. When
your photographs arrived in my
absence they were given to a
member of the Committee who kept
them until we put up the Exhibition.
Then we took them to the hall
and when we were finished with
them I personally put them
in an envelope - a brown paper one,
and being called off for a

The pictures are not one. I hope you have the negatives
so that if Rogers has not got the envelope with your

few minutes to take charge of
something or rather that needed
mending I laid them on Mr Lottiges
table. Since then I have not
seen them to my knowledge although
I raised a "cloud of dust" in
searching for them. I believe
that Mr Baynes (bird protector
Baynes and buffaloman) or his
secretary, who had several brown
envelopes like mine with things in
them, took my envelope by mistake
and I have written both to him
and to his secretary. That

she could have happened I do not know for at the time
they disappeared there were no people except a few

few minutes to take charge of
something or rather that needed
mending I laid them on the lodges
table. Since then I have not
seen them to my knowledge although
I raised a cloud of dust in
searching for them. I believe
that Mr Baynes (bird protector
Baynes and buffalo man) or his
secretary, who had several brown
envelopes like mine with things in
them, took my envelope by mistake
and I have written both of him
and of his secretary. That

else could have happened I do not know for at the time
they disappeared there were no people except a few
members of the club and my watchmen in the hall.
Nothing else out of the immense amount of stuff we
had in the hall was missed at any time and I
assure you it was through no carelessness of mine
or any other of the committee that your pictures are
missing. I am very sorry, in fact the club has hit
me pretty hard for I know how much you prized

St. Botolph Club

Ans'd. April 24, 1914

Dear Dr. Meriam

I am writing you in great trouble of mind. When your photographs arrived in my absence they were given to a member of the Committee who kept them until we put up the Exhibition. Then we took them to the hall and when we were finished with them I personally put them in an envelope - a brown paper one, and bring called off for a

the pictures you sent me. I hope you have the negatives so that if Baynes has not got the envelope with your prints in it you can have other copies made, (and this of course at the expense of the Club). I beg that you will not think too badly of me.

The Exhibition has been regarded as a great success. I am sure that I am glad of such general opinion for I never worked so hard over anyone thing in my life, practically living in the hall

St. Botolph Club

from eight in the morning to
twelve or two every night for six
days.

Your cabinet picture is all
ready and I am going to send it
on with your photographs if I
find them, otherwise with my deep
regrets.

Very sincerely

Charles P. Gross

April 17

100 Upland Road,
Brookline.

Dear Dr. Meriam:

I knew my note would
be a blow to you and I think it
was one of the hardest letters to
send off I ever mailed. Also
I am much disappointed at the
contents of your last letter to me
for I had hoped the prints
might be replaced. I have
heard from Baynes and his
secretary and they have been

make as well as yours, as I feel very sad
about the matter.

through their things and say they cannot find your pictures among them. I am now doing the only other possible thing I have not yet done, - and that is sending out a circular letter to all the members of the club to see if they can find them among their things by any chance.

This whole business is so curious. Had there been a big mess or hurry and flurry in putting the exhibition I could

understand the disappearance of your pictures but as there was no hurry and as everything was moving in an orderly and quiet manner and as I have not heard of any

through their things and say they cannot find your pictures among them. I am now doing the

only other possible thing I have not yet done, - and that is sending out a circular letter to all the members of the club to see if they can find them among their things by any chance.

This whole business is so curious. That there been a big mess or hurry and flurry in running the exhibition I could

understand the disappearance of your pictures but as there was no flurry and as everything was moving in an orderly and quiet manner and as I think I knew where every exhibit thing were at any minute after they came into the hall until they left, it seems mighty strange. The way your pictures got up and left where I put them.

In hopes I shall be able to place these photographs, for my own

100 Upland Road,
Brookline.

Dear Dr. Meriam:

I knew my note would
be a blow to you and I think it
was one of the hardest letters I
ever sent off I ever mailed. Also
I am much disappointed at the
contents of your last letter to me
for I had hoped the prints
might be replaced. I have
heard from Baynes and his
secretary and they have been

sake as well as yours, as I feel very sad
about the matter.

Charles F. Cross J

April 24 [1914]

100 Upland Road,
Brookline.

Recd. June 22, 1914

Dear Dr. Meriam

I have some good news for you. Your photographs have finally turned up. The loss was indeed a most curious one, for they got behind the coverings of a suit case used for the safe keeping of such things when the Exhibition was being taken

down. My father will send
them to you by registered mail
after my departure tomorrow
morning for the west.

I am very happy
about your pictures

Sincerely
Charles P. Cross J

June 19th
[1914]

Ans'd. March 14, 1917

MASSACHUSETTS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
ROGERS LABORATORY OF PHYSICS
BOSTON

March 11, 1917.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,

My dear Sir, -

Among
the belongings of my son,
Charles R. Cross Jr., there are
several bear-skulls, cleaned
and in good condition, mostly
of the Alaskan brown bear. A
portion of them are labelled but
not all. Some of them may pre-
viously have been examined by
you.

I do not know whether
these specimens would be
of any value to the museum
but if you would care for them

I shall be glad to send them
to you as a gift.

I am

Yours very truly

Chas R Croft

Ans'd. Apr. 5, 1917

100 Upland Road,
Brookline.

April 1, 1917.

My dear Dr. Wernham, — I have asked
the taxidermist who has had the
care of my snipe heads and skins
to pack the bear skulls and ship
them to you according to your direc-
tions. I am very glad that they will

be of use to you.

They will be carefully packed,
but I regret to note that there has
already been some splintering of the
teeth.

I thank you for your kind
words of appreciation of my son
and am

Yours very sincerely

Chas. R. Cross

Mr. C. R. Cross acknowledges
with thanks the Paper on Grizzly
and Big Brown Bears kindly sent
him by Dr. Merriam, with its recapi-
tulation of ~~aid~~ rendered. The general
statements, all that a layman would
naturally understand were read with
much interest.

Mass. Institute of Technology May 14, 18

Cross, Whitman, 1854-

1913

83/24
c

2138 BANCROFT PLACE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan 20. 1913.

Dear Merriam:

I've been given the job of preparing a tentative list of Washington Scientific men to be invited by National Academy to its Semi Centennial. List is to be based on merit or grade of work with same general idea as that of Cattell's stained names in "Men of Science". About 1000 may be invited.

Will you scrutinize enclosed list of men in the group of your Section in the Academy, making suggestions of omission or addition + greatly oblige me. I assume that you will know of men I have

missed as this is such a
large group in Washington
& there are many new
men, particularly in the
Dept. of Agriculture.

I would like to keep
this confidential.

Yours truly

Whitman Cross.

Recd. Jan. 23, 1913
Chm

Ans. Feb. 18, 1913.

2138 BANCROFT PLACE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Feb. 17, 1913.

Dear Merriam:

Mr. Hague asks me to send enclosed list of zoologists of US who may appropriately be asked to attend Anniversary of National Academy. It is mainly Cattell's list (a part of it) with checks by Councilman. Will you indicate agreement by a check (x) in column of your name and add names of men you would consider of equal merit? This is quite a job and we would appreciate your opinion very much.

Please return to me as soon as convenient.

Yours truly

W. C. Cress.

Culim, Stewart, 1858-1929

1905 - 1907

Brooklyn Institute

Museum

Brooklyn, N.Y.

March 20 1895

My dear Dr. Merriam,

I

thank you most cordially for
your kind letter, and for the
photographs. I regret putting
you to so much trouble.

Will you send me at your
convenience your card data
about the flat beaked hawk
with the figures?

Yours sincerely

W. Brewster

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 1, 1905.

Dear Doctor Merriam:

My paper on the American Indian Games is in press and I am anxious to get the name of the tribes and the other data on your cards about the baskets, of which I enclose proofs of cuts. I would be very grateful if you could mail this to me at Brooklyn, if you can do so without particular inconvenience.

Very truly yours,

Stewart Culin

Doctor C. Hart Merriam,
C/o Mr H. W. Henshaw,
Department of Agriculture.

P. S. I will be glad if you will return the proofs with the information.

*Data sent
Dec. 11, 1905 - Culin*

Brooklyn Institute

Museum

November 14th 1905

My dear Mr. Merriam

I am
very much obliged for
your kind note

which I should have
acknowledged before.

I will be grateful

if you will hand my

former inquiry with

the enclosed note to

Dr. Merriam on his

return. I am sincerely

Yours truly
John Lubbock

Letter sent Dec. 11, 1905
cam

The Swannanoa Hotel

RATES: \$2. TO \$3. PER DAY

OWNED AND OPERATED BY

Frank Loughran

Hotel Berkeley

Asheville, N. C.

RATES: \$2.50 TO \$3.50 PER DAY

FRANK LOUGHRAN, PROP.

W. C. HAWK, MGR.

Asheville, N. C., Dec 31st 1905

My Dear Helen Merriam

I
will be very grateful to
you if you will give me
a little more information
about your gem bling trays
The Yokut basket^{no 40}
understands you to tell
me was Wikitchanne
and I connect in this
and can you inform me
where it came from;
its diameter, and
any particulars about
the gem.

The other place^{about} which
you gave me a note was
not No 40, but I
understands. Niwoka. It was
23 7/8 inches in diameter. -

The collector states it was

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FRANK LOUGHRAN, PROP.

W. C. HAWK, MGR.

Asheville, N. C.,

190

made by one of the Yurok tribes.
The Miwok call the plague and
game by the same name,
chattawome. They use 6 dice
while the Yokut use 8. This
game was observed by
Dr. Merriam among the following
tribes: Wickhamne, Karwek
River, Entinbitch (Paiute)
Hill Creek; Chukchansi,
Pilkatchi, and Kassoro,
San Joaquin River. All the
above play with walnut shells,
but the Pilkatchi also use
walnut shells, and the
Kassoro possibly use carved
wooden dice.

If this refers to another place
than the one marked Mvovo
(37) could you send me a
photograph of it here

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FRANK LOUGHRAN, PROP.

W. C. HAWK, MGR.

Asheville, N. C.,

190

with a note as to its
locality.

I am very sorry to
trouble you so much.

My present address is
due to my having been
sent off here by my
physician from a severe
illness, probably resulting
from a little over-exertion
last summer.

Yours sincerely
Arthur

Sanborn (a.m.)

Recd. & Ansd.
Jan. 2, 1905.

Recd. + ansd.
Jul. 8, 1906

Brooklyn Institute
Museum

Brooklyn New York

Dear Doct^r Merriam, -

I
fear I have exhausted
your patience, but I am
naturally very anxious
to get my illustrations
correct.

I inclose the cut of
the Wiktchamne basket
which I omitted to send.
Can you conveniently
send me a copy of
your catalogue card,
which I thought very

interesting, with its
approximate diameter,
and will you tell me
too, to what stock your
new-wah belong. I
suppose from what you
say they are Mariposan.
The editor reversed all the
tribal names in my ms
to my great confusion.

Yours sincerely

~~A~~ Curtin.

He changed new-wah to
Miwok, which was
probably the chief source
of my error.

Brooklyn Institute Museum,
Eastern Parkway,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

October 8, 1907.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir :-

The Franciscan Fathers at St. Michaels, Arizona, propose to publish the Dictionary of the Navajo Language upon which they have been engaged for the past ten years. The dictionary will contain a series of articles on Navajo religion, ceremonies, arts, industries, each to be followed by a list of the Navajo terms employed therein, with more or less detailed explanation. This descriptive text will comprise articles on the industries, weaving, dyeing, silver working, basket making, etc. In addition, it will contain lists of Navajo names of persons and places, star names, names of plants and animals. The work may be best described as an ethnologic dictionary. It is proposed to print it at St. Michaels, Arizona, and to issue it with the imprint of the St. Michaels press. The edition will be limited to not more than 200 numbered copies, of which only 180 will be sold. The price will be \$5 per copy, payable on delivery. The undersigned, deeply interested in the publication of this important contribution to Science has undertaken to bring it to the attention of scholars.

Should you wish to subscribe, will you kindly inform him at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Thomas Fisher

*Agreed to take a copy
at this price (\$5.00) -
St. Francis, Oct. 31, 1907 - am*

Lumplings, Amos Jay, 1841-1902

1901

83/29
L

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

CHARLES A. BOUTWELL, Chairman.
George Edmund Foss, Victor H. Metcalf,
Alston G. Dayton, Amos J. Cummings,
Henry C. Loudenslager, Adolph Meyer,
R. B. Hawley, Farish Carter Tate,
Thomas S. Butler, John F. Rixey,
Melville Bull, William W. Kitchin,
Sydney E. Mudd, Willard D. Vandiver,
James E. Watson, Charles K. Wheeler.

J. E. Hall, Clerk.

Committee on Naval Affairs,

House of Representatives U. S.,

Washington, _____, 1900.

February 25th, 1901.

C. Hart Merriam, *CH*

Chief, Biological Survey,

Department of Agriculture,

My dear sir:-

I very much appreciate your efforts on my behalf
and especially ^{in regard to} No. 7, of the American Fauna. If it is within
my power to reciprocate, please let me know and I shall gladly
do so.

Yours truly,

Amos J. Cummings

Cummings, Clark Eaton, 1855-1906

1902-1903

83/124
✓

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Feb. 25. 1902.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam:

Washington. D. C.

Dear Sir:

Upon the advice of Mr.
Grease I send you the
enclosed bill - which he in-
forms me you have agreed
to pay -

Very truly yours -

Lo Lane E. Cummings.

Assoc. Prof. of Botany.

Recd. March 9, 1902

WELLESLEY COLLEGE,
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Mar. 12. 1882.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam:

Washington - D. C.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

Your letter in regard to changes
in paper on Alaska Lichens is at
hand.

I would say that the form in
which the body of the paper was
cast was suggested to me by
Prof. Trelease - I wrote up
one genus which was submitted
to him for criticism. The changes
he suggested were adopted and
all the other genera written
up accordingly.

Last summer the paper nearly
completed with the keys was
submitted to him for criticism
at the Denver meeting. No suggest-
ion as to changes of any sort was
made -

Upon my return to Wellesley
I received the lecture from Prof.
Setchell, which accounts for the
much marked up manuscript,
which troubled me a bit -

Of course I shall be glad to put
the manuscript into the form which
you desire but as the change will
involve a great deal of work
and as there is no typewriter in
the village of Wellesley - it
will be a matter of some weeks

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

I fear to make the changes. Our
Easter vacation will occur in
two weeks and I shall be away
from the College about twelve
days at that time.

Please return all the manu-
script with the plates - as soon
as possible -

Yours very truly.

Oliver C. Cummings.

Recd & has returned
March 14, 1902.

Out March 26/1902

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Mar. 20. 1902.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam.
Washington. D. C.
Dear Mr. Merriam:

Your second letter and
the manuscript have been
received.

The form that you suggest
pleases me much better. My
only regret is that it was not
given me earlier. It is such
a fearful waste of time to do
work over. Nearly all other
book-work has been pushed
aside for this - and several sets
and several sets

May I inquire how soon

you plan to publish and in
what form? That it will
all the remaining articles be
published in the same way
as the Evans article?

Very truly yours -

Edward E. Cummings.

P.S. How soon would you like
this manuscript? It seems to
me now that nearly every para-
graph must be rewritten.

Wellesley College,

Department of Botany.

Wellesley, Mass., Apr. 9. 1902.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I send with this two pages of manuscript. Will you be so kind as to examine them and return with any criticisms you can make. I would like to have both matter and form satisfactory.

Thank you for the suggestion in regard to having the work done by a type writer. That is quite impossible, no one can do it who has not a technical knowledge of the subject.

The pages sent give the revised key to the genus *Buellia* - Should not the word *Buellia* be in Capitals?

you will notice that the key is not quite properly indicated
that will be corrected in subsequent work.

Do you really wish all the species of lichens which
have been listed for Alaska to appear in this contribu-
tion? I have been working on the genus *Leccaria* today -
and find over 50 species in my card catalogue which
are not in my list. Some of these are synonyms and
many would now be arranged under other genera.
I can see the advantage of having the work as complete as
possible, but the work cannot be done accurately without
looking up all the synonymy - a very tedious piece of work.
I spent three and one half hours today making
the necessary changes in twelve species. I am as

Wellesley College,

Department of Botany.

Wellesley, Mass.,

anxious as you can be to have the work completed and
shall devote all my spare time to it until it is fin-
ished.

Very truly yours.

Charles E. Sumner.

Recd. in full + sample
returned April 13/1902.

all to final

such a feel-

ical piece

that you

the final

into -

arrangements.

and.
May 28, 1902

Wellesley, Mass.

May 16, 1902.

Dear Mr. Merriam.

In answer to your letter I
would say that I do not expect to
have more than the sheet plates
originally planned for.

The work of revision is progressing.
(I fancy that you have no idea how
laborious it is,) and I hope all
the manuscript may be ready to
send you in two short weeks.

It has been difficult to find
a type man who could satisfactorily
do such a technical piece
of work: but I trust that you
will be pleased with the final
result of our joint-efforts -

Very truly yours -

Charles C. Cummings.

and.
May 28, 1902

Dear

I

would

have

original

The

(I fancy

laborer

the m

and

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Mr. C. Hart Merriam:

Dept. of Agriculture.

Washington.

C. C.

Wells Bay. Man.
May 24

Dear Mr. Merriam:

Manuscript all in the hands
of the typewriter. Shall I send in
sheet which is finished, or wait until the
end of next week when I hope to have
it all? Yours truly,

Edward C. Cunniff.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Qued. June 5, 1902

May 30. 1902.

Dear Mr. Merriam.

To-morrow I shall have
the great pleasure of sending
to you by express - the trouble -
some manuscript - on the Alaska
lichens. I am sorry that the
work could not be accomplished
sooner, but I have put almost
every moment of free time
~~within~~ the Easter holidays
upon it in vain -

You wonder how so much
time has been spent upon
it? It is no small matter

to guide an inexperienced
typewriter through such an in-
tricate maze as that fearfully
marked up copy was. Then I
spent hours and hours hunt-
ing up elusive labels, and
you will find your attention
called to quite a number which
perhaps you can supply from
your larger library. Then
again the matter of hunting
up the exact locality of each
specimen was a time consuming
operation, practically doing
over all that part of the
work in another way. - If the

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Manuscript meets with your
approval I shall be heartily
recompensed for the great-
& fruitless time of time and energy.

I hope that you may be able
to send the proof to me so that
I may be able to read it here
before I leave for my summer
vacation. In reading the proof
I may ^{want} be able to refer to my
herbarium or library.

I have used Linnaeas in
you requested.

It will be impracticable
for me to make a key to the

gave without more time
than I now have at my
command.

Did Mr. Trelease send you
my request for reprints? He
told me that he could not
inform me how many would
be furnished free and how
much I must pay for 4 tras-
Will you ^{be so} kind as to give me
such information?

Sincerely yours,

Walter E. Cunningham

P.S. The package has been sent to
the Dept. of Agriculture - as you
requested.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

June 11. 1902.

Dear Mr. Merriam.

Your letter is at hand.

Thank you for its appreciative words.

I am sorry that the work could not have been pressed to completion earlier, but that was impossible because of heavy departmental work.

I trust that you may have a successful summer season. I shall look forward with great interest to meeting you in Washington next winter. My summer will be spent in the Franconia Mts. of N.H. at No. Lindstock.

I enclose bill for type setting

re

Very sincerely yours.

Edward E. Cummings.

Added.
Jan 15/1902

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Nov. 13. 1902.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I am wondering if that
lichen manuscript is in the hands
of the printer yet - I fear that I
shall be obliged to make a change
in it. The Enelocarpum (new sp.)
did not quite satisfy me and I
submitted it to Prof. Farlow. At
first he thought it an Enelocarpum,
then suggested that it was a fungus
parasitic upon an alga - What
is that but a Lichen? But as he
says, "There is a point beyond which
Symbiosis ceases to be a (botanical)
virtue". He suggested that the plant

might be *Passerella tessellata*. Kitz.

I send a folder to Mr. Harsh - Today
I have received a letter from him.
He refers it to the genus *Passerella*
with a *Laestadia* parasitic upon it.

I have just written Prof. Silliman
about the matter. I do not know
to whom to send the specimen over.

Will you please cut out the part
of my manuscript relating to this
species. That will mean a re-
numbering of nearly all the species,
and changes in the total number
of ~~old~~ species and of new species.

Can you state when I am likely
to receive the proof of the article?

Yours truly,

Charles C. Sumner.

Recd. Nov. 25, 1902

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Dec. 3. 1902.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

Your letter of Nov. 25th is before
me. The only changes required in
the manuscript will be the
removal of the Enclaves, the
subtraction of one from the total
number of new species and the
change of the consecutive numbering.
I will be greatly obliged to you if
you will make these changes.

Very truly yours -

Edw. E. Bennett.

Wellesley College,

Department of Botany.

Wellesley, Mass., Jan. 19. 1903.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

The package was received in good condition. and is returned today. I am sorry that I could not give it earlier attention but pressure of College work has kept me very busy.

The plates seem to me to be very satisfactory. I am delighted with them. There are two omissions which I have supplied - the numbers of the figures - and Merriam's name as delineator. The ^{figures} also have the magnification - which is ~~most~~ necessary if they appear in the explanation, as they should. Please do me the favor to compare ^{with} the explanation of the plates and see if the ^{magnification} numbers appear in the explanation.

I have removed the plate of the "Endocarpon" - it having been decided that the specimen should be classed as a *Prasopoda*. I have written to Prof. Zuleague about it.

I was so sorry that I could not reach your home in time for dinner that last rainy night. I could have gotten a carriage but too late for my purpose. It was very kind in Mrs. Merriam to plan it and I appreciate the trouble she took.

Is it possible to hurry up my proof at all? There must-
year examinations begin the coming week and I shall have
some leisure hours which could be devoted to proof reading.

Very truly yours.

Edw. E. Leeming.

I have suggested to Prof. Zeebe the possible use
of the plates of the (Prasada) Endocarpus - as I call ^{ed} it.

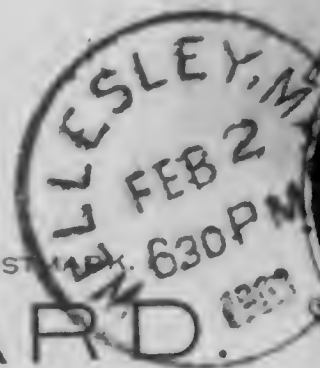
Ans'd. Jan 20, 1903



THE SPACE ABOVE IS RESERVED FOR POSTAGE

POSTAL CARD.

THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Rev. C. Hart Merriam

*U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.
Washington.
D. C.*

Wellesley, Mass.
Feb. 3. 1903.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

Your letter at hand. The Endo-
campus material has been sent to
Mr. Zuleague - Prof. Fallow informs me
that it has been reported from another
Arctic locality since I wrote you last.
Yours truly,

Oliver E. Cummings.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE,
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Mar. 7. 1903.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I have received from
you four installments of proof,
about half of which I return
here with - There are very few
corrections to be made.

May I ask why the change
in punctuation from the copy
you furnished me as a sample,
which change involves a departure
from the rule of citation adopted
by the Modern Philological
Congress? I refer to rule i.
Punctuation. All my periods

have been changed to commas Why?

The dropping out of my Endo-
carpum involves a change in the
total number of specimens, num-
ber of new species to which I have
made. I will return the rest
of the proof on hand as quickly
as possible.

May I inquire if you have
my order for reprints and how
many I ordered? I have forgotten
in the months since it was
written.

Yours truly,

Edward E. Cummings.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Mar - 9. 1903.

Dear Mr. Merriam.

I transmit with this
all the proof received. As first
I thought the copy would not
be needed again but as the
books have been used so freely
where the Type gave out I
have decided that it is best
to forward to the 'New Era' Print-
ing Co.

It is a bit humbling to see
how many different ways
one can make the same sort
of a reference - due to copying

from so many different authorities. I am very grateful to you
for the care you have exercised
in correcting some of these slips -

Very truly yours.

Wm. E. Cummings:

I have written to the New Era
Printing Co - about the reprints.

Wellesley College,
Department of Botany.

Wellesley, Mass., Mar. 19. 1903.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

By this mail I return the last proof and "copy". Do you wish the "copy" of the preceding species? The New Era Publishing Co. did not seem to want it and advised me to return it to you. In the present proof so many blanks have been used that I do not see how the proof can be filled out accurately without the copy.

I have not yet received information from you in regard to the reprints. Please order 250 copies for me with a suitable cover -

Is the proof to be read a second time?

Sincerely yours -

Charles E. Kemmerer.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Apr. 15. 1903.

Mr. C. Hart Merriam:

Washington. D.C.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

Your letter and the proof
were awaiting me upon my re-
turn from my Easter vacation
which was prolonged on account
of illness. I will read the proof
as soon as possible but as my
strength is not fully restored I
may not be able to return it
this week.

I do not see how I am to
add references to the plates
unless you forward either the

originals or the proofs - I have
neither.

I forward with this the proofs
the Endocarpum. I did not re-
ceive your request to have it re-
turned to you. I offered it to Mr.
Deane - and he did not an-
swer me. So I felt myself at
liberty to retain it.

Yours very truly.

Clara E. Cummins.

P.S. I have as yet received no in-
formation in regard to the "reprints"

and April 19, 1903

Wellesley, Mass.

Apr. 22. 1913.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I return with this the proof of the
Alaskan Lichens. As I wrote you before I cannot
add the references to the plates - not having the
plates in hand. I read the proof carefully and
made a number of minor corrections -

Thank you for your information in regard to the
reprints. I will write to Messrs. Doubleday & Page.
I am glad to have had the opportunity of working
with you - It has been helpful to me -

Sincerely yours.

Charles E. Cummings.

~~ASL~~

WELLESLEY COLLEGE.
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Apr. 24. 1903.

Dear Mr. Marriam:

I have just received
another copy of the lecture
proof from Professor DeLancey.
accompanied by a letter - calling
attention to various points -
I will try to examine this new
copy tomorrow and return to
you - I understand that -
you then make any final
changes. The letter from
Prof. DeLancey, which is sent
with the proof makes me think

that I possibly misunderstood
some of his question marks on
the other copy.

Sincerely yours -

Oliver E. Cummings.

Added

and had from.
to pleasure of
of my exchange

Wellesley, Mass.
Apr. 25. 1903.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

With this I return
under a separate cover the
revised Lichen proof. There
are still a few unsettled ques-
tions - Prof. Delise writes
that he prefers *Abachan* as
the adjective form - I think
that I agree with him - He
has underlined the word
wherever it is found and put
a question mark against it -
which I have left, preferring
that you should settle the

E. Cummings.

form.

Prof. Zuccarelli quite on the ref-
erence to *Flora* under #17. But
it does not extend as far back
as that and so I cannot verify
the reference is copied from
Finn Lih. Scand. 624.

I have added titles and given
names in the bibliography - I
should be glad to have you
make any changes. Needful
to make the list correspond
with the others you have
published.

Under No 80 Prof. Zuccarelli
has crossed out the name.

Glacier locality
doubtless why
herbarium is a
that region in
I have not a
I will write Prof.
the matter -
question mark
printing - which

better than I

I am much
that I cannot
reprints as I
posed that the
re published by
Academy of Sciences
it for granted
have as many

quite one the ref-
erence under #17. But
it is kind as far back
as I cannot verify
it is copied from
Scand. 624.

ded titles and given
bibliography - I
and to have your
changes. Needful
to like correspond
than you have -

80 Prof. Zuccare
and the Musi.

Glacier locality - I do not un-
derstand why - In my own
herbarium is a duplicate from
that region under the #1298a.
I have not a specimen of #1307.
I will write Prof. Zuccare about
the matter - One or two other
question marks refer to the
printing - which you will answer
better than I can -

I am much disappointed
that I cannot have as many
reprints as I wish. I had sup-
posed that the article would
be published by the Washington
Academy of Sciences - and took
it for granted that I could
have as many reprints as

care to pay for - and had from
yourself the pleasure of
paying off some of my exchange
debts.

Sincerely yours -

Oliver E. Cummings.

~~Robert~~

Dear Mr. Ward

With

under a separate

renewal books

are still a few

books - Prof.

that he perfect

the adjective

that I agree

has understood

wherever it is

a question of

which I have

that you should

END OF REEL.

PLEASE

REWIND.